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Troops retreat from Gaza rioters

HERB KEINON
and JON IMMANUEL

THE sergeant who commanded an IDF checkpoint at the Netzarim junction in the Gaza Strip yesterday was suspended from duty for abandoning military equipment there when he withdrew from the post with his men as Arab rioters approached.

The equipment included a classified map, binoculars, and a number of smoke grenades. The latter were seized by the rioters and thrown at the retreating soldiers. Hundreds of Hamas activists converged on the junction, near the settlement of Netzarim, setting tires alight and throwing rocks at the soldiers.

The troops fired in the air and then withdrew to a defense line at Netzarim, a settlement of some 35 families. The IDF brought in three armored personnel carriers and called the Palestinian Police to deal with the mob, which began marching in the direction of Netzarim. The Palestinian Police came and dispersed the crowd.

According to Shlomo Kostiner, the secretary of Netzarim, residents who were on their way to school and work were turned back by the IDF, and those inside the settlement were instructed to remain there until the mob was dispersed.

When one pregnant woman, Yehudit Hamdi, went into labor, a helicopter was brought in to take her to a nearby hospital. Kostiner said the Hamas activists, from Gaza's Islamic University, arrived at the junction on 20 buses and set out to cause a confrontation.

Zvi Hendel, leader of Gaza's 5,000 settlers, said the protesters were armed. "This is not a children's game, this is not an ordinary demonstration where they block a road and sing songs. Here we are talking about weapons," he told Army Radio.

The demonstrators also burned an Israeli flag, according to Dalia Hershkovitz, a spokeswoman for the settlers. "Netzarim had to close its gates from 7 a.m. to 12, and that is a bad precedent," she said.

OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i told reporters at the scene that the protesters "tried to reach the settlement, but we prevented them by coordinating with the Palestinian Police."

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur, who was on a tour of the settlements in Gaza, said yesterday morning, told Israeli Radio that the IDF retreat from the outpost was not a sign of weakness. Rather, he said, "it is a serious question when to interfere, and when not to, and we have an interest in seeing the Palestinian Authority take control of the situation, because that is what they committed themselves to do in the Oslo agreement."

Rabin, Peres, Barak in Amman for talks

Peace treaty details may be announced this morning

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin, along with other senior officials, flew by army helicopter to Jordan last night, amid signs that Jordan and Israel were nearing a peace treaty.

Rabin, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak were expected to spend the night at King Hussein's Hashamiya Palace outside Amman, after holding talks on the remaining obstacles to an agreement.

Officials hinted that should all go well during the late-night meeting, both Hussein and Rabin would convene a press conference at the palace this morning to announce their progress, and perhaps announce that a treaty would be signed next month.

The Prime Minister's Office said last week that they expect a peace treaty to be signed next month.

In preparation for last night's meeting, and as a follow-up to the meeting between the leaders of both countries last week, both Elyakim Rubinstein, chief negotiator with Jordan, and Ephraim Halevy, deputy head of the Mossad, who has maintained quiet contacts with Amman, were in Jordan to try to resolve the remaining disputes.

The three major stumbling blocks to a peace treaty have been water issues, border demarcation, and security matters.

During their meeting last week, they discussed international financing for the \$125 million construction of two dams on the Yar-

muk and Jordan Rivers and a desalination project near the Kinnet, which are aimed at easing area water shortages.

Yesterday's trip marked Rabin's third visit to the kingdom in two weeks and the fourth since July 25, when Jordan and Israel declared an end to their 46-year state of war.

After a first round of talks last night, Rabin met privately with Hussein, while Peres held talks with Jordanian Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Israel Radio reported.

Jordan and Israel ended another round of bilateral talks last Thursday without announcing any breakthrough on the key issues - including a claim by Jordan to

about 350 sq. km. of land in the Arava.

Jordanian officials reportedly said they had turned over several documents, forming a "peace package," to a joint committee of Jordanian and international legal experts to study.

"The package offers possibilities for trade-offs to satisfy both sides and facilitate a peace treaty," one official said. "We have never been so close to a treaty."

Also yesterday, Defense Ministry Director-General David Ivry made an unscheduled visit to Jordan during a tour of the Beit She'an Valley.

Ivry visited the site of the former Sheikh Hussein Bridge over

the Jordan River, where a new border crossing is being constructed.

While inspecting the site, Ivry asked to cross over to the Jordanian side and the impromptu visit was quickly arranged.

He met with Jordanian engineers, who said they expect to complete the work on their side, including laying supports for the new bridge, within two weeks.

The Public Works Department said work on the Israeli side is unlikely to be completed before the beginning of next month. The department is also planning to build a new highway that will link the crossing point directly with Haifa Port.

Beit She'an Valley Regional Council chairman Yigal Shahar, who hosted Ivry, said that kibbut-

zim in the area should be compensated for losing farming land for the new bridge and proposed highway projects.

Shahar later participated in a festive ceremony at the bridge site yesterday and at the new Ganei Huga water recreation park nearby, to mark the end of the "Go Galilee" tourism convention.

More than 130 tour operators and travel agents from 27 countries, including Jordan and Egypt, participated in the four-day event, to promote tourism in the Galilee and the Jordan Valley.

Eli Gonen, director-general of the Tourism Ministry, said there is no doubt that peace moves in the region would help give a boost to tourism generally and to Israel and the Galilee in particular.

David Rudge contributed to this report.



The gravesite of Nir Poraz, who was buried yesterday in Tel Aviv's Kiryat Shaul cemetery. (Alon Roa/Israel Sun)

Nir Poraz, an 'exemplary soldier,' buried

CAPT. Nir Poraz, who was killed during the failed Friday night attempt to rescue Cpl. Nahshon Wachman, was buried yesterday in the Kiryat Shaul cemetery in Tel Aviv.

In eulogizing him, Poraz's commander said he was "an exemplary soldier and an outstanding officer, whom everyone knew they

could depend on in the most difficult moments."

His friend Dror said "because of you, many lives were saved, and your actions will be remembered for generations."

Among those participating in the funeral were OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan

Biran, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, and Rabbi Motti Elon, head of the Horev Yeshiva High School where Wachman studied, and pupils from the school.

Elon said that although they did not know Poraz, they had come to pay tribute to him.

(Itim)

Kohl wins German election for fourth time

ALON PINKAS
BONN

GERMANY'S traditional king-maker party, the Free Democrats, (FDP) played its role to perfection according to yesterday's preliminary election results and assured Helmut Kohl a fourth term as the nation's seventh chancellor since 1949.

The FDP, headed by its unappealing leader and state foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, confounded pre-election predictions of doom by winning six percent of the general vote and making it near certain that Kohl will form the next government.

"We have won the second all-German election," Kohl told party workers at the headquarters of his Christian Democrats (CDU) here.

Opposition leader Rudolf Scharping admitted his Social Democrats (SPD) failed to unseat Kohl. "The win has been confirmed by an extremely narrow margin," he told supporters.

The CDU-FDP coalition's combined result looked set to be

around 49 percent against around 47.4 percent for the opposition SPD, radical Greens and the reformed eastern communist Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS).

ZDF television said in a late computer projection from exit polls that Kohl's government had only a one-seat majority over the combined opposition.

Earlier last night at the CDU headquarters here, party secretary Peter Hainzle said but declared victory, saying: "We have won a commanding majority among the democratic parties" - a clear swipe at the strong showing in the east of the PDS, the socialist heirs of the former East Germany's Communist Party of Erich Honecker, who was toppled five years ago this week.

The PDS gained an impressive 20 percent of the vote in the five federal

states which made up the old German Democratic Republic.

PDS leader Gregor Gysi said his party's strong showing indicated widespread dissatisfaction in the east with the politics and economics of reunification. "This one can describe as historic," he said.

But the main opposition SPD expressed some cautious optimism, since their apparent 37 percent, combined with the Green Party's disappointing 6 percent and 4 percent for the PDS across all of Germany could conceivably present Kohl with a challenge in trying to form a majority coalition.

However, the election results essentially mean that Germans will have more of the same, with the familiar bulky figure of the "unification chancellor."

He apparently won the votes of a majority of conservative Ger-

mans content with their country's strong economy and willing to pay the high social and financial price that unification has exacted, and will continue to exact, from them.

The victory was won as Germans who traditionally would have voted for Kohl's CDU split their vote and gave the Free Democrats their "second vote" in the mixed majority and proportional representation system.

They did so, election analysts say, fearing that the CDU, with the FDP as its only potential partner, might lose if the FDP crashed below the five percent barrier that a party needs to be represented in the Bundestag, unless it wins three directly mandated seats from "first votes."

The political message of these elections in a unified Germany is that the unification process remains the top issue on the agenda, exemplified by the east voting its disillusion with the socio-economic consequences, of which unemployment is the main indicator.

Gaza closure ends today, PLO talks resume tomorrow

SARAH HONIG

THE closure on the Gaza Strip will be lifted today and the talks with the PLO resumed tomorrow, the cabinet decided at its weekly session yesterday.

The cabinet also decided that soldiers be allowed to ride for free on public transport, to reduce the need for them to hitchhike.

Although Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was reportedly criticized by Meretz ministers for not consulting the government before going ahead with the operation to rescue Cpl. Nahshon Wachman, the government unanimously approved the decision retroactively.

The cabinet gave Rabin the go-ahead to lift the closure on Gaza, which was imposed last Tuesday night, and to resume negotiations with the PLO in Cairo. Pressure for both moves was spearheaded by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat also called for the reopening of Gaza, arguing that a further extension of the closure would create damaging political and economic pressure.

Shohat told the cabinet that Palestinian Authority Economy Minister Ahmed Oriea (Abu Ala) called him on Saturday night asking him to help to lift the closure.

Rabin then announced that the closure would be lifted this morning and that the talks will be resumed tomorrow. He told the cabinet session that the talks were never really suspended.

All that took place, he stressed, was that the head of Israel's delegation to the Cairo talks, Maj.-Gen. Danny Rothschild, was called home for consultations due to the kidnapping crisis.

At the same time, the government demanded that the PLO take "determined action against the terrorist elements active within the autonomous areas under its control."

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein explained in an interview that "the government is not asking the impossible of Arafat, nor even 100 percent success, but we do want to see 100 percent effort. We want maximum relative security. For instance, when wanted persons or killers escape to Gaza after committing murders, they should be turned over to Israel, as the PLO undertook to do in the Oslo and Cairo agreements, and not released after a few hours."

The decision to lift the closure was hotly opposed by Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar, Economics Minister Shimon Shetret, and Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur.

Kessar accused Arafat both of "lack of adequate control over the

territory put in his charge and at the same time, lack of adequate effort to impose control and fight the terrorist elements in his autonomy, who seem to do as they wish there."

Some of the ministers suggested a summit between Rabin and Arafat, in which Israel would forcefully demand that the PLO curb Hamas.

Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu came out strongly against the decision to lift the Gaza closure. He labeled it "an ill-conceived, foolish decision, given the fact that Gaza had become a snake pit of terrorist activity, where terrorists openly plot, train and prepare for terrorist outrages and to which they afterwards escape with impunity."

"If anything the closure should be prolonged and tightened, and a fence should be constructed around Gaza, if we do not again want to see Israelis abducted near Tel Aviv," he said.

In the defense briefing, the ministers were told that "technical hitches" led to the tragic end to the Friday-evening rescue attempt.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister C. J. Namin complained about the fact that operative details of the military action appeared in the press yesterday. "Where is the censorship?" he asked, and Rabin reportedly agreed.

The Meretz ministers attacked Rabin for not having brought the military option before the cabinet, or at least to the inner cabinet. Rabin amended his earlier contention that he was afraid of leaks from within the cabinet. Yesterday he argued that the very summoning of the government would have led to speculation about an impending operation.

Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni criticized Rabin "for reaching his decision alone. At stake was a question of life and death, but also the implications for the peace process. The prime minister should have allowed his ministers to express their opinions. He shouldn't only consult with security personnel."

She also inquired why Rabin did not inform the ministers at the Friday morning cabinet session that Wachman was being held in Bir Naballah near Jerusalem, and that the house in which he was being held had been identified. Rabin argued that he was given this information during the cabinet meeting itself and had not yet checked the report.

The General Security Service earned unanimous praise for locating the house.

Jose Rosenfeld contributed to this report.

Ceremony marks eighth year of Arad's capture

"AN entire people will celebrate your return home," former president Chaim Herzog promised missing Air Force navigator Ron Arad yesterday, in an emotional ceremony in Tel Aviv to mark eight years since his capture.

"When you come home, Ron Arad, to your wife and daughter, to your family and your people who are waiting for you with uplifted eyes, you won't believe your eyes: An entire people will celebrate your return home. An entire people will join you in the feeling of joy and freedom," Herzog said. "Thousands of people holding signs and candles participated in the

event at the Tel Aviv Museum.

Herzog said he could "testify firsthand that over the years a supreme effort has been made by the Israeli governments to locate and free our missing fighters. The sad fact that these efforts have not borne fruit yet does not indicate any easing up. We must continue to tenaciously and steadfastly pursue the goal until we achieve it."

Arad's brother, Chen, said the Syrians had a role in Arad's situation, and told the crowd tearfully: "I say that only through your pressure can we see to it that there will be no peace without Ron's return." (Itim)

Hot spell finally breaks with thunderstorms

DAVID RUDGE

THE unusually long hot spell that continued throughout September and the beginning of this month finally broke over the weekend.

Rain and local thunderstorms swept many parts of the north and some central districts yesterday, accompanied by a marked drop in temperatures.

The forecast is for local showers, heavy at times, to continue in the northern and central areas until Thursday, with temperatures dropping accordingly.

The rainfall has had little effect so far on the level of water in Lake Kinneret, but it has helped reduce the volume of water Mekorot has been supplying to farmers during the prolonged heat wave.

Demand for water for domestic use, however, is continuing to rise. A report submitted by Mekorot to Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur, shows a 20 percent rise in water consumption, primarily for domestic use, in the past two years.

The report said the increased demand had put greater pressure on water supply systems to municipalities and councils, and some 16 cities and towns throughout the country were without adequate back-up facilities. These included Haifa, Karmiel, Acre, Nahariya, Kiryat Shmona, Holon and Eilat.

The report was compiled fol-

lowing severe disruptions and cutbacks in supplies of water to the Nazareth region during the height of summer.

The cutbacks in the Nazareth area, which affected tens of thousands of residents, were caused when the main pumping station supplying water to reservoirs serving Nazareth and Upper Nazareth and surrounding villages broke down.

An investigation revealed that there were no alternate ways available to feed the reservoirs, and the supply to thousands of homes was simply cut off.

The Mekorot report found that the 16 other towns and cities

would be in a similarly precarious situation in the event of a breakdown in the pumping systems or even bursts in main water pipes.

The report, which was also submitted to Water Commissioner Gideon Tsur, said at least NIS 400 million would be needed next year to begin establishing back-up services in the listed areas. Altogether, the experts estimated that as much as NIS 1 billion would be required to cover all the potentially problematic communities.

The agriculture minister is expected to submit the report to the Treasury with a recommendation to set aside the funding needed for the proposed development work in next year's budget.



Finns choose to join EU

HELSINKI (Reuters) - Finland voted 59 percent to 41% to join the European Union in a referendum yesterday, according to results of advance voting announced moments after polling closed.

The early result was based on almost 1.2 million votes, or around 30% of the electorate.

"One might assume that the majority of people have settled in favor of membership. It seems clear," Finnish Prime Minister Esko Aho told reporters.

Finland - provided parliament approves the referendum result - will now join the European Union along with Austria from January 1, 1995. Sweden and Norway are due to hold referenda on EU membership next month.

After a long recession and decades in the Soviet shadow, this small nation on the northeastern edge of Europe is hoping for stronger ties with western Europe. After the non-binding referendum, the parliament will make a final decision. Most of the 200 legislators have said they will respect the referendum outcome.

Some 4 million people were eligible to vote and turnout was high. Nearly a third of the electorate already has cast ballots in advance at post offices and embassies.

Nordic leaders hope a "yes"

vote from the Finns will influence neighboring Sweden and Norwegians to accept membership in their referendums Nov. 13 and Nov. 27.

With the Nordic nations and Austria, the EU would grow to 16 members encompassing more than 365 million people.

Finland, which shares a 1,270-km border with Russia, fought two bitter wars against the Soviet Union to keep its independence. During the Cold War, the Finns subjected their foreign policy decisions for Moscow's tacit approval, but the breakup of the Soviet Union gave them new freedom.

"Now the situation has changed," said Tapani Vahtoranta from Helsinki's Foreign Policy Institute. "Finland is jumping out, through the window of opportunity, to formally become a part of western Europe."

The main EU opponents were Finnish farmers afraid they will have to compete against cheaper produce from warmer climates in Europe. Some Finns also feared a loss of independence.

But the Finance Ministry says the net gain from membership next year would be 1.2 billion markkaa (\$250m.), mainly from EU agricultural subsidies and other compensation.

Aristide starts assembling a gov't

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Reuters) - A day after a triumphal homecoming, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide started to assemble a government for his shattered country yesterday with hardly any phones working in his presidential palace.

The calm outside the National Palace where Aristide spent his first night back in Haiti after three years in exile was mirrored in the streets of the capital, which resembled the day before with joyous celebrations of his return.

The populist Roman Catholic priest and champion of Haiti's impoverished masses returned to Haiti on Saturday after the military regime that had run the country since a September 1991 coup stepped down.

"President Aristide is just working today, getting started, doing things he has to do," said US Army Lieutenant John Auten, one of the palace guards.

There were no public events on Aristide's schedule yesterday, said senior adviser Mike Levy, who added without specifying that the president had declined to attend several events.

For now, he said, work in the palace consisted of setting up a government from scratch. "It's hard even to communicate," Levy said. "There was only one phone (in the palace) that seemed to

really work well even, and most people are communicating with (two-way) radios."

One person answering a working phone at the palace said he had no idea what was going on yesterday.

An aide to caretaker prime minister Robert Malval said Malval was holding his own meetings with aides, and a cabinet meeting would be held on Wednesday after ministers evaluate what they had to work with.

"Government offices are in a catastrophic state. They've taken away desks, stolen computers, equipment has disappeared and cars are missing," the aide said.

US officials said meetings would be held yesterday with Aristide representatives to try to set up a rudimentary information operation to keep the public informed of the government's activities.

Antoine Joseph, a senior member of the Haitian Chamber of Deputies who has moderated his anti-Aristide position, said he had yet to meet with Aristide, but hoped to soon.

The most crucial early decision facing Aristide was appointment of a new prime minister to succeed Malval, Joseph said, adding he hoped the new prime minister would be someone able to bring Aristide supporters and opponents together.

Macedonians hold first election

SKOPJE (Reuters) - Macedonians voted yesterday to elect a new president and parliament for their tiny state which has managed to avoid the wars that have plagued other republics that seceded from former Yugoslavia.

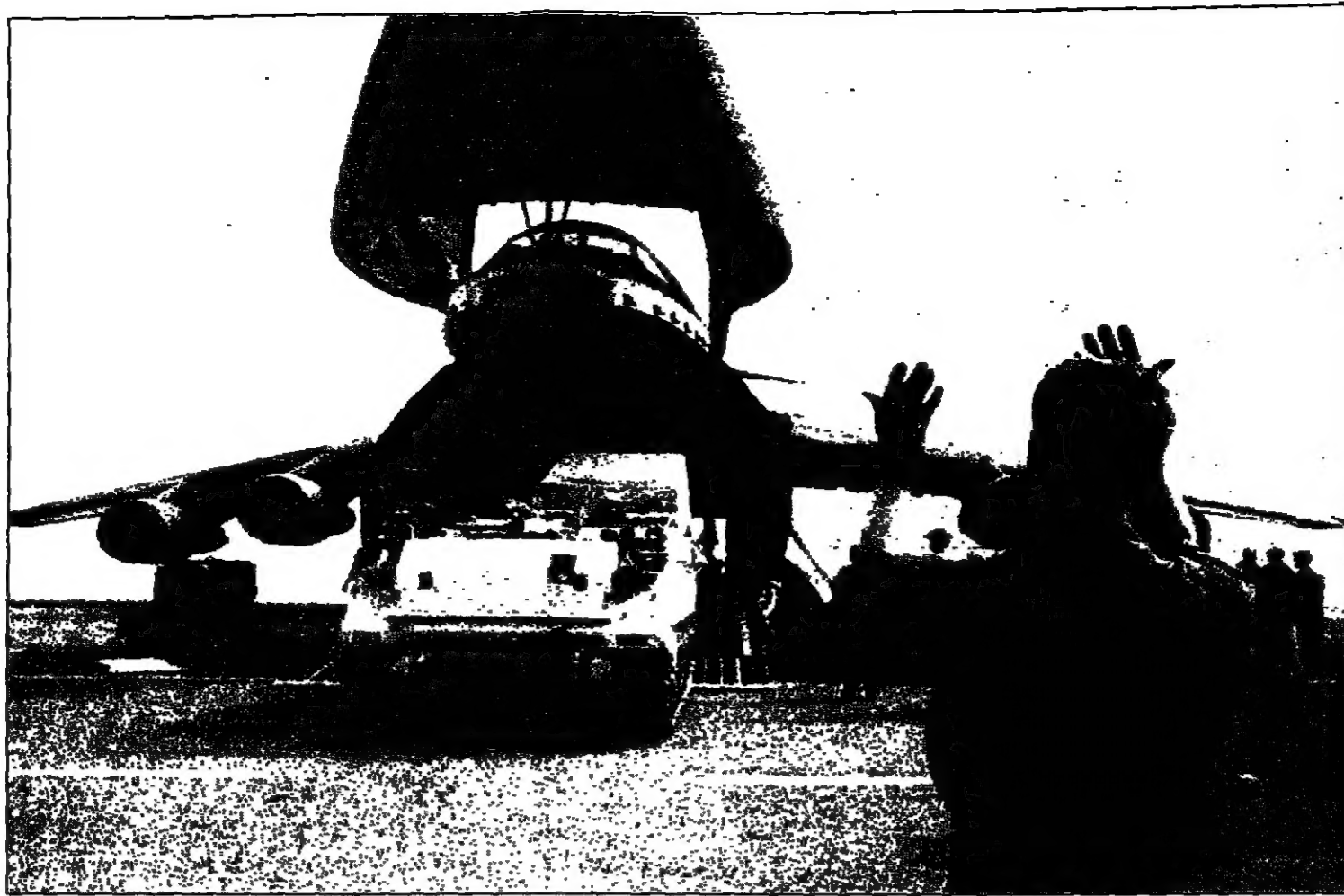
Opposition parties alleged widespread ballot box fraud and said they would ask for the result to be annulled.

Turnout was heavy during the morning for the first presidential and parliamentary polls since Macedonia gained independence in 1991, election commission officials said.

The state election commission said 28 percent of the 1,368,000 voters had voted by 1300 GMT.

The opposition complained of major voting irregularities. "Everything is chaotic and the situation with voting lists is catastrophic and totally against the law," said Democratic Party leader Petar Goshchev.

The state election commission was forced to intervene when the voting list for the village of Stajkovci near Skopje was missing. It was later found in the centre of Skopje. Lists for a large part of the Cair district of the Macedonian capital were also missing.



A US airman directs an M113 tracked vehicle off the ramp of a C-5 cargo plane at Kuwait's military airport yesterday. (AP)

No sanctions relief for Iraq

News agencies
WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton warned Iraq yesterday that it must complete its pullback of troops from near Kuwait and a US official said Washington saw no need to ease UN sanctions against Baghdad.

Clinton praised the UN Security Council for a new resolution warning Iraq to pull back troops it had massed near the Kuwaiti border.

"The message is clear: Iraq must complete its withdrawal, it must not threaten its neighbors in the future, it must comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions," he said at a reception marking the restoration of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power in Haiti.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher ruled out easing sanctions at this time, saying he saw no reason for granting Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein any favors.

"There's no occasion for the easing of sanctions, there's no occasion for doing him any favors at the present time," he told NBC television's "Meet the Press."

The UN Security Council unanimously warned of "serious consequences" unless Iraq pulled back its elite troops massed near the

border with Kuwait.

Christopher said some Iraqi forces had moved north away from the border but they had halted their pullback.

"We're not announcing that it's finished yet... (Saddam) does seem to be moving in the right direction," he said.

Clinton reiterated that US forces would stay in the Gulf until the crisis passed.

"The troops, ships and attack aircraft I have ordered to the Gulf area will continue to remain there until the crisis passes," he said.

In Kuwait meanwhile, seven Iraqis and two Kuwaitis will appear in court today to challenge convictions last summer for plotting to kill former US President George Bush during a visit to Kuwait.

Six were sentenced to death, the others to prison terms of up to 12 years.

Iraq had been accused of being behind the assassination plot, and the hearing in the Cassation Court comes in the midst of a new Iraq-Kuwait crisis.

Judge Abdullah al-Rifai will preside over a five-judge panel of the Cassation Court that will examine the legality of the convictions and sentences handed down June 4 by a State Security Court.

The Cassation Court is not an appeals court, but it can overturn lower-court verdicts if it finds they were not in accordance with Kuwaiti law.

Al-Rifai insists he won't be influenced by the current Iraq-Kuwait tension.

"We are judges not politicians," al-Rifai said. "We are immune from all that is happening and it will not affect us in any way."

But human rights activists and a Kuwaiti lawyer who will be representing two Kuwaiti brothers in the proceedings are not so sure.

"I wish this trial was not going to take place in this charged atmosphere," lawyer Najeeb al-Wugayan said. "This reminds me too much of the trials after liberation."

Bosnian PM launches attack versus world

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic has launched a bitter attack on the international community, accusing it of pandering to the Serbs and ignoring the plight of Sarajevo.

UN aid workers meanwhile, racing to replenish food stocks depleted by weeks of Serb blockade, suffered a new setback yesterday when Serb shelling near Mostar again closed a major UN aid land route from the Adriatic sea to Sarajevo.

The Serbs bombarded Bosnian government forces along a UN security zone around Sarajevo yesterday but had failed to make significant territorial gains, the UN Protection Force said.

Silajdzic said the major powers were responding to the humanitarian crisis in the Bosnian capital as if it were a natural disaster rather than the result of 30 months of siege by Bosnian Serb forces.

The latest phase of the Bosnian peace process had played into the hands of the government of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, he added.

"They are... treating it as a natural catastrophe, so they are bringing aid into Sarajevo. This is not a natural catastrophe, this is a man-made catastrophe," he said in an interview.

"It is quite clear, Sarajevo is being strangled because it is being used as leverage to extract a political settlement that suits the regime in Belgrade."

"So this is blackmail, by the international community practically agreeing with this."

International sanctions against Belgrade have been eased to reward Milosevic for his decision to mount a military blockade against the Bosnian Serbs following their refusal to accept the latest international peace plan.

The plan awards 51 percent of Bosnia to the Muslim-Croat alliance and the rest to the Serbs who would have to give up about a third of the 70 percent they now hold.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic again refused to yield territory.

"Nothing that the Serb soldier has liberated and protected should be surrendered," Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA quoted him as saying in the northern Bosnian Serb town of Banja Luka.

Serbs allowed significant UN food convoys to enter the Sarajevo on Saturday for the first time in weeks. They went along a route exposed to fierce Serb shelling near the southern town of Mostar over the past few days.

Charles: I never loved Princess Di

LONDON (Reuters) - Prince Charles never loved Princess Diana and was forced into an empty marriage by his domineering father, according to an authorized biography of Britain's angst-ridden heir to the throne.

The future king, opening his heart in astonishingly frank confessions to broadcaster Jonathan Dimbleby, said his ill-fated union with a fairytale princess was like a Greek tragedy.

"I never thought it would end up like this. How could I have got it so wrong?" asked the lonely and confused prince whose high-risk strategy could plunge the monarchy into more crisis.

His loveless marriage is portrayed as a charade with Diana manipulating herself in attempted suicides and forcing herself to vomit after going on eating binges.

Trapped, bored and alone, she was also said to be consumed with jealousy after believing Charles was still seeing his old flame Camilla Parker-Bowles. Charles has admitted committing adultery when, he said, his marriage broke down irretrievably.

His frankness could backfire. The People tabloid said in an editorial: "Charles has just conspired

in writing the longest abdication note in history."

The book shows a prince dominated by his father, the Duke of Edinburgh, who issued him an ultimatum - propose to the shy young Diana or end the relationship.

His father ordered Charles to end one affair before it caused a scandal. Another girl was told to "make herself scarce."

Letters to friends showed the marriage floundering within five years. He wrote in 1986: "Frequently I feel nowadays that I'm in a kind of cage, pacing up and down it longing to be free."

"How awful incompatibility is and how dreadfully destructive it can be for the players in this extraordinary drama."

He felt tortured in his gilded cage, powerless to save his marriage: "It's agony to know someone is hating it all so much. It is like being trapped in a rather desperate cul-de-sac."

The Duke of Edinburgh is portrayed as a stern father who reduced his son to tears. On life at his austere boarding school Gordonstoun, Charles said: "It's such hell... It's such a hole here... The language people use is horrid."

Police arrest Mahfouz attackers

CAIRO (Reuters) - Police killed one Moslem militant and arrested at least six believed to be directly connected with an attempt to kill Egypt's Nobel prize-winning novelist Naguib Mahfouz, security sources said yesterday.

The arrests were made late on Saturday, 24 hours after a suspected militant stabbed the writer in the neck, sparking a massive manhunt for those behind the attack.

Yesterday, the director of the hospital where Mahfouz, 82, is being treated said he was getting better but his condition was not stable.

Four wanted militants were spotted in a coffee shop late on Saturday in one of a series of sweeps in the northeast Cairo suburb of Ains Shams, a militant stronghold, the sources said.

As police moved in, gunfire blazed. One militant and a civilian caught in the crossfire were killed. Two militants were wounded, one seriously, and arrested. The fourth man was unhurt and was seized for questioning.

The security sources said police extracted information from him which led them to three more fundamentalists in a hideout in the Qalyoubiya province, north of Cairo.

The trio was arrested and police also seized weapons, crude bombs and other explosives, books and cassettes promoting the fight against secularists, the sources said.

The sources identified the slain militant as Mohammed Khalil, and the wounded as Hassan Bakr and Mohammed Mustapha, whom they said were active members of the militant group, the Gama'a al-Islamiya, seeking to install a purist Islamic state by force. The fourth militant was named as Mohammed Bishr Hamdi.

There has been no claim of responsibility for the attack on Mahfouz but the interior ministry said Moslem militants, some of whom declared Mahfouz an infidel and put him on a death list, were behind it.

Mahfouz in 1988 became the first Arab to win the Nobel prize for literature. He was attacked on the sixth anniversary on his award.

Police have rounded up more than 40 other suspects in Cairo and the suburbs, some of whom they believe helped plan and prepare the attack on Mahfouz.

Balloons, roses mark child's death

CHICAGO (AP) - A balloon bouquet and four red roses marked the spot where a 5-year-old was pushed out of a 14th-floor window by two boys because he wouldn't steal candy for them.

"To Eric Morris, I Love You" was written on a red, heart-shaped balloon anchored to a pole yesterday. A white, handwritten sign nearby said: "RIP (rest in peace) Eric. We love you."

Eric and his half brother, 8-year-old Derrick, were lured to a vacant apartment at the Ida B. Wells housing project by a 10-year-old and an 11-year-old, police said.

They put Eric out on the window's edge, but Derrick pulled him inside. The older boys put Eric out a second time and Derrick struggled to bring him back again, police said. One of the boys bit Derrick's hand and he lost his grip. Eric fell.

He died on the way to a hospital of massive internal injuries and head trauma.

POLITICAL DICTIONARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Edited by Susan Hattis Rolef

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Singer lends historical resonance to NIO's 'Godunov'

THEY had to twist her arm a bit.

It's a character part, director Johannes Schaaf cajoled.

Conductor Gary Bertini was a little less subtle. "He told me, 'you'll do it. Besides I'd rather have you on stage than a guest of honor in the audience,'" says mezzo-soprano Rema Samsonov.

So when the curtain rises October 24 at the New Israeli Opera's brand new opera house on Musorgsky's epic *Boris Godunov*, Samsonov will be on stage as the Nurse.

Arguably the most famous opera ever to come out of Russia, *Boris Godunov* is based on historical truth. Musorgsky wrote both the music and the libretto, based on Alexander Pushkin's play of the same name.

Following the death of Fyodor, Boris persuades the people to make him czar, but his reign is sullied by rumors that he's a usurper and the murderer of Dimitri, the rightful heir.

The people turn against him, and to make matters worse, Boris learns that there is a pretender to the throne, one Grigory, who has gone to Poland to get support and funds.

Grigory's subsequent invasion, superstitious dread and treachery among the nobles drive Boris mad and he dies.

This production is designed to be as contemporary as Italy's Silvio Berlusconi or Russia's Vladimir Zhirinovskiy; director Schaaf says they and other power-hungry politicians aren't much different from Boris.

But Schaaf's staging is more than just a metaphor for the cynicism of image-building or power politics.

In Germany after the war left tradition dictated that *Boris Godunov* show the people as decision-makers, the creators of a new order, but the truth is that nothing has changed. The people are still what their leaders make them into. They are there to be used, I

don't believe that."

So Schaaf's Boris is hoisted on his own petard. Like all autocrats he comes to believe in his own propaganda and it destroys him, along with the masses he's gulled.

Schaaf has left his driven czar in the 17th century. He doesn't believe in updating plots to hammer home a contemporary message.

"We theater people can't change reality but by showing it up, maybe we can change perceptions a bit."

WORK ON *Boris Godunov* is full circle for Samsonov. She is one of the first Israeli-born opera singers.

She sang in the inaugural season of the old Israeli Opera (see box) in 1958 at Allenby 1, down by the sea, and she worked for years with Bertini as a member of the Chamber Ensemble, which later became the Israel Chamber Orchestra. This is the first time that Sam-

sonov has sung on the opera stage since she quit the Israeli Opera in 1962. Her first role there was Prince Orlovsky in Johann Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*.

The following year she created the role of the Edomite princess, Selina, in Menahem Avidon's *Al-Exandra the Hasmonian*. Among others, she sang Amneris in *Aida* and in 1961 she was Delilah in *Samson and Delilah* by Saint-Saens.

She must have been smashing in the role. Samsonov is beautiful, an elegant and poised woman with deep blue eyes that are a bit wary.

She's a long way from the teenager who'd "close the windows and shutters to practice so that the neighbors wouldn't hear."

"This was pioneering Israel, and the idea of anyone actually studying to sing professionally, 'well, it just wasn't done.'"

She was born in Hadera and is astonished that anyone would be

so discourteous as to ask her when. Music filled her home. Her father taught himself the violin and founded the first trio in Hadera and recalls Samsonov, "just recently I found the program of a vocal recital my mother gave in Haifa at the turn of the century."

Samsonov's first formal training came from Rose Pauly. Later she went on to study at Juilliard in New York and at the University of Wisconsin. When she came home in the mid-'50s, a radio program and pure luck launched her local career.

Both violinist Isaac Stern and conductor George Singer heard Samsonov sing Mozart and Schumann on Israel Radio.

Singer took her for the opera. Through Stern she got a date with the Israel Philharmonic, "and so it all started," she says simply.

Samsonov's opera career didn't end when she and others quit the Israeli Opera in 1962, because "I

lobbed the Ministry of Education for funds so that we could work. That's how we started the Chamber Ensemble with Gary. We did chamber operas with huge success."

Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Consul* and *The Medium* were among the operas, but the ensemble also performed other music, especially works by Israeli composers, and many composers wrote songs especially for Samsonov, like "Deborah's Song" by Sergiu Natra or "Songs in the Morning" by Ben-Zion Orgad.

"Then there weren't other Israeli singers [who sang that material] and I thought that Israeli composers deserved to be heard," she says.

Samsonov doesn't remember how many years she sang with the ensemble, or where they toured when. "I really don't remember dates and times," she says apologetically, sitting in the immaculate living room of her Tel Aviv home.

A picture of her first husband is on the wall. He was Yehiam Weitz, who was killed on the Night of the Bridges in 1946, when the Palmach blew up bridges on the Jordan River.

She married again and has a son, who's an architect, and "a wonderful daughter-in-law with three marvelous grandchildren."

She teaches voice production privately and at the Beit Zvi drama school but stopped singing professionally "some years ago because at a certain time a singer needs to leave the stage and not fight to continue doing what they did once."

Being back onstage is back to "being totally involved."

"I like things you either love or hate. Opera falls into that category and that pleases me. The Nurse is a small part but in this production, she's not the comfortable old babushka [granny] of traditional Russian literature. She's more like a royal governess. She raised Boris and now cares for his children."

Erotic thriller's feminist curves

FILM REVIEW
ADINA HOFFMAN

ANGEL OF DESIRE

Directed by Donna Deitch. Screenplay by Max Strom and John Allen Nelson. Hebrew title: *Malach He'Shuka*. 90 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted.

Melanie Joan Severance
Nathan Anthony John Denison
Connor Ashcroft John Allen Nelson

PART TV movie, part feminist revenge fantasy, part soft-porn slush, *Angel of Desire* is a wonderful mix of a film. The picture is also thoroughly trash, which is precisely what makes it so much fun.

But first, I'll admit it: I like rotten TV movies. In fact, the worse they are, the better. Give me girl cops in stiletto heels, tony Charles and Di look-alikes, or drug lords with fake Spanish accents and long limousines. Junk of this sort is a relief after the glossy finish that so often accompanies a production of the same budget. The story of *Angel of Desire* is simple: if that's not too fanciful a term for rote camera angles and sluggish editing suits the crude dramatics.

Donna Deitch's erotic thriller, *Angel of Desire*, is just that. Crude. Its gun-toting heroine, Melanie (Joan Severance), is a sexy police detective with a lipstick-red convertible and a tawny head of hair that she likes to toss saucily whenever she's insulting a chauvinist.

Melanie also has a few emotional kinks: She loves to drive alone at night to test the limits of her self-reliance. As she steers, she makes eyes at her rearview mirror and confides to us in a "bushy voice-over" that she won't let men get close.

"A long time ago, something happened to trust," she leaves the something at that, without offering any biographical specifics to

explain this guarded worldview. Through her spooked interior monologue she manages to evoke the generalized menace of female nightmare—a bit of betrayal, a touch of battery, and a dose of rape.

Now, Melanie may not trust men anymore, but it doesn't take her long to start smuggling up to the primary suspect in the grisly murder case she's currently investigating, Connor Ashcroft (John Allen Nelson) is a studly senator's son accused of slitting the throat of a beautiful ballet dancer after a night of wild sex.

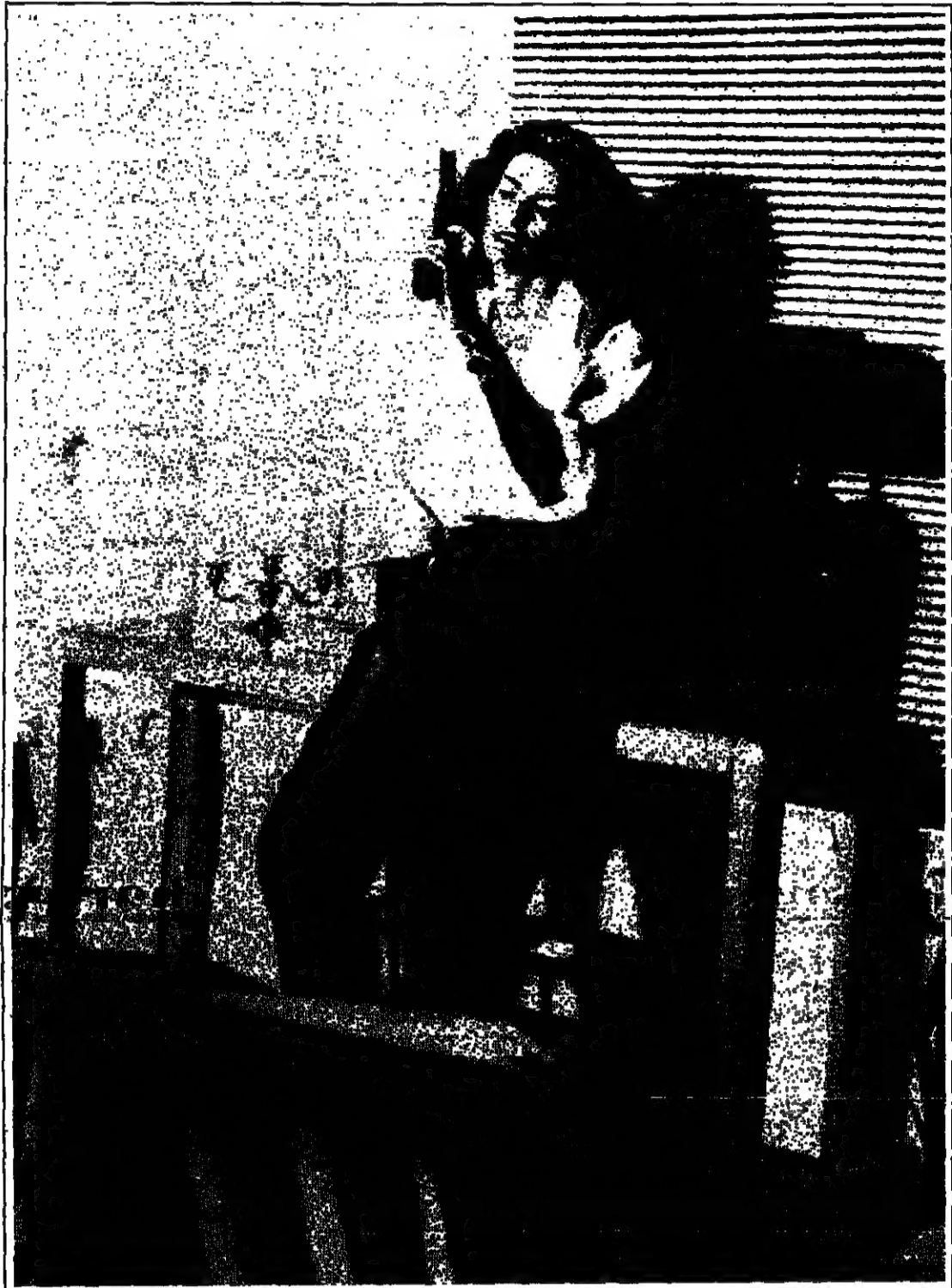
As a woman, Melanie takes the crime personally and wants to find the decapitator. At the same time, she doesn't take the crime so personally that she can't kick off her high heels and join Connor in his Olympic-sized pool, where he always swims in the buff.

Soon they're swimming together, while the plot treads water. Softly lit and sparsely accented with scenes of tough police batter and an affirmative action gunfight or two, (A misogynist cop gets shot in the gut; a gay black cop and a woman survive.)

There's something self-defeating in the film's politically correct approach to its steamy subject matter. On the one hand, director Deitch and her mostly female crew of editors, designers and photographers, seem eager to rid the provocative happenings of any sexist threat.

Their caution, however, nearly denies the movie a necessary modicum of sleaze. *Angel of Desire* is so clearly meant as a turn-on, it's peculiar how long it takes to arrive at an actual sex scene. And even in the midst of a fairly graphic interlude, we sense Deitch standing off to the side, averting the camera at pivotal points, checking for potential offense as another director might consult her cinematographer for frequent light meter readings.

In the lead, Joan Severance is very, um, expressive. As viewers



Gun-toting Melanie (Joan Severance) is a sexy police detective with a lipstick-red convertible and a tawny head of hair that she likes to toss saucily whenever she's insulting a chauvinist.

here may or may not remember from last year's soft-core *Lake Consequence*, the actress has a fresh, open demeanor and the

backside of a Renoir nude. In this movie, she's given the opportunity to make use of the former more often than the latter.

This chanteuse's Ute-erly original

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THERE can't be many soloists with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra who don't read music.

But that didn't bother either the IPO or the soloist in question, Ute Lempert, when the 31-year-old German-born chanteuse got up before a packed house at the Mann Auditorium last week to perform Kurt Weill songs as well as numbers associated with Edith Piaf and Marlene Dietrich.

Following her part of the program, while Zubin Mehta and the orchestra continued with Strauss waltzes, the slim, sexy singer granted a short interview, while members of her family waited in her dressing room.

She had nothing but praise for the members of the IPO.

"The people are so funny, so wild here... the discipline is really different from London, for example. It's very messy here, but really when they go ahead and do it, it's great."

Based in Paris, Lempert is married to an American Jew who has made his home in Jerusalem. Five months ago their son, Max, was born and she insisted that he be circumcised, albeit in a hospital and not in a religious ceremony.

Lempert, as dramatic offstage as on, says she cannot imagine being married to a German.

"I would be very bored living with a German... it's stupid to generalize, but there is no craziness in them. I have to be with a person who can laugh a lot and has dreams and fantasies and an incredible sense of humor."



Singer Ute Lempert proved as dramatic offstage as she did with the IPO.

bly wild teenager. I was gone all the time and they never knew what I was doing."

"I had a rock band and a jazz band and I was singing in a club so I was very enthusiastic about everything, but they couldn't control me. When I finished school I took off and never returned to Münster. When I came back now, after one day I have enough of it. It's so petite bourgeois. There's a church at every corner of the street. It's very Catholic and that's just too much for me."

Lempert's artistic career began when she was offered a role in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Cats*. Despite her success in that genre, she hates the world of the Broadway musical.

"They are totally idiotic and the stories are not bearable. I did that enough like *Cats*, *Peter Pan* and *Cabaret*. *Cabaret* is a good story, but I played it 300 times and that is too much."

She has only terrible memories

from her *Cats* experience. "*Cats* was really stupid and so tiring and this bunch of Eliot poems, they don't mean anything to me. I had a huge dancing part and my body was broken, my voice was broken, my mind was broken and my spirit was broken. It took away the enthusiasm for the theater and the illusion for it and I had to work a lot to get it back. It was just like a factory. I would never do that again. It had nothing to do with theater."

What Lempert likes most is being alone on stage, with a piano or a small orchestra and doing her very own program, which is sure to feature some Kurt Weill songs.

"Weill has a whole history with me. I'm singing his music for many years now... I was 20 when I had my first Weill evening just with a piano and I was singing very fast and very high and very childish. After all, at 20 you don't know really what's going on," she says.

"I wanted to tell his history to the people of my generation, all these children of the Cold War. Our education is very limited considering the Holocaust. I wasn't educated in a proper way about that. One didn't talk about those times. And I was introduced to this history through Kurt Weill. Now this is something I want to tell. I want to tell his story not only with music but also with words. His music is like a secret love of mine for many years and through this I grew up myself. Today I sing it much differently, much slower, much lower."

Lempert's musical activities, however, are not limited to Weill. She participated in several projects with Michael Nyman, composer of the sound track to *The Piano*. She recently recorded an album with her own lyrics and she dreams about a project with musician Tom Waits.

Top jazz instrumentalists headed our way

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

TWO top stars of the modern jazz world are among the artistic coming attractions of the next few months.

Joe Zawinul, a Czech-born, Austrian-raised musician who now resides in the US, was last here with his Syndicate at the 1993 Red Sea Jazz Festival. He's returning by special request from one of his closest friends, Austrian President Dr. Thomas Klestil.

The first performance is scheduled to take place in the presence of Klestil, during his projected visit, and President Ezer Weizman, at the Rebecca Crown Auditorium in Jerusalem on November 8 (November 10 at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv).

In December, guitarist extraor-

dinaire Al DiMeola will arrive for two performances as part of a worldwide tour. The Grammy award-winner will perform with his five-man band on December 6 at the Jerusalem Theater and December 7 at the Mann.

The Finnish National Ballet comes to the Mann for two nights (November 12 and 14) with Carolyn Carlson's *September*, a full-length modern dance work.

Another modern dance giant, William Forsythe, brings his Frankfurt Ballet to open the Dance Alive series (starting November 29) at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center.

Theater lovers should await the

Before that Steven Berkoff brings his latest one-man show to Israel, starting December 7. It is comprised of an adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe's *Tell-Tale Heart* and two short pieces by Berkoff himself, *The Actor* and *Dog*.

Check by Jowl company's energetic, poetic and powerful production of *As You Like It* in which men perform all roles. First night is December 15 in Tel Aviv.

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The role of the press

FEW in the civilized world seemed to condone the abduction of Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann by the Hamas. True, there is no way to prove this - there are no opinion polls to confirm the impression - but if the response of governments and media commentators is any indication, there was universal sympathy for the anguished family and revulsion at the kidnapping.

The media played a pivotal role in creating this response. The picture of Wachsmann under terrorist guns, which recalled hostages in Lebanon held by Islamic extremists, put the story at center stage. His mother's eloquent plea for his life was an appeal with which every mother could identify. And the play the press gave the tragic rescue attempt, which major papers throughout the West featured as their main story, was a reflection of the international importance the story assumed.

What the world media have not done is any soul-searching as to the role they have played in helping the Hamas become a major menace. It was only 20 months ago that every newspaper, television station and radio network throughout the world was singing odes of sympathy and paeans of praise for the 415 Hamas leaders and organizers expelled by Israel after a similar abduction-murder of an Israeli. The chorus of protests against the Israeli action in the media, taken up by all Western governments, was so strident that Israel felt forced to back down. First it limited the time of the expulsion to a year, then returned the deportees even before the year expired.

The Hamas gained not only tremendous prestige from the forced return of its leadership, but a rejuvenation of its power. The media did not play up this triumphant return: their ardor for the Hamas was cooled by the bombing of the New York World Trade Center by Islamic extremists. But for the local Hamas the return of its organizational and ideological backbone constituted a new lease on life. That it felt it could pull off another spectacular kidnapping is hardly surprising.

One of those slated to be deported with the 415 Hamas organizers was pulled off the bus at the last moment. He was a journalist now implicated in helping the Hamas prepare and distribute the

video cassettes of Wachsmann's capture. At the time, the world's press was incensed by the very thought that Israel would consider exiling a journalist. But describing him and other Hamas and PLO agents as journalists is no more accurate than calling "journalists" the KGB agents who passed for TASS reporters during the Soviet regime.

Unfortunately, these Hamas operators now work for Reuters, one of the world's most distinguished news agencies. That Reuters has been acting as the propaganda arm of the most virulent anti-Israeli elements in this country is no secret. Its record of distortion and bias is unmatched.

Reuters does not just take sides in an international dispute - which is reprehensible enough. It is the only international outfit which has taken upon itself to lionize and glorify child killers. A typical example was an adulatory profile of a Hamas knife-wielder who had murdered a teenage girl in Jaffa.

That four Reuters journalists are being investigated by the Palestinian Police in Gaza for collaboration with the Hamas is hardly surprising. It is even less surprising that one of the journalists is the very one who was pulled off the deportee bus in 1992 and who has been the object of admiration by human rights groups ever since.

There is apparently little one can do against an international news agency which chooses to turn itself into a propaganda instrument for a radical group in one corner of the world. Yet it is sad to see one of the most reputable news agencies sink to such levels. Apparently, there is a demand for virulent anti-Israeli material in the large Arab market, and commercial calculations may be taking precedence over considerations of professional integrity.

But there must be something the government can do about a news agency which uses the very special privileges it enjoys to abet terrorist actions. Government Press Office head Uri Dromi said over the weekend that Israel "would not tolerate journalists who created the news instead of covering it." One can only hope that his warning can be taken more seriously than most such government threats.

Blessed are the boring

THERE is always something gratifying about yet one more democratic election in Germany. And the duller it is, the more satisfying it is to the country's neighbors. As layer after layer of democratic tradition is laid down in the new Germany, the whole world seems to breathe a sigh of relief.

Europe had grown used to West German democracy before 1990, especially as the state had forged an unprecedented and imaginative post-war alliance with its old enemy France in the Coal and Steel Community. This proved to be the solid bedrock on which was built first the European Economic Community, then the European Community and now the expanding European Union. German democrats rescued themselves from the allies' post-war idea of containing Germany for all time - if necessary, by reducing it to a loose agglomeration of pastoral provinces.

However, the experiment began to look very shaky indeed as the controversial reunification of East and West Germany forged ahead in an atmosphere soured by a frightening outbreak of neo-Nazi violence, antisemitism and Holocaust denial. Across the world heads began to shake as people muttered "the Germans will never change."

Now, in 1994, we may take a cooler perspective and show more understanding for the tremendous trauma reunification and the end of the Cold War has proved to be in Germany. We can indeed sigh with gratitude that this weekend's election has been so dull and boring that it scarcely raised a ripple in the world and no more than turgid

political analyses in the serious European media. Indeed, for Europeans, the Flims' historic decision to leave the shadow of their fear of Russia and join the European Union has been a marginally more significant story this week than the intricacies of German coalition politics.

It has been said of quiet, dull democracies like Denmark "blessed is the country that has no news." Overseas, and even in Germany, this major election has been noted only for its yaw-factor. It is almost a relief to see the avuncular Helmut Kohl, the antithesis of charisma, and his stolid Christian Democrat-Free Democrat coalition plod home to another four years in office.

A foreigner might even be hard pressed to list the campaign differences between the Christian Democrats (CDU) and opposition Social Democrats (SPD) - they are far less than between even the British Conservative and Labor parties. On the key "attitude to foreigners" issue, the CDU says foreign residents should give up their home countries' passports if they want to become German citizens. The SPD says they should be able to have dual citizenship. Neither was a platform likely to bring human rights activists to the streets.

On foreign military operations, the CDU wants German forces to help with internationally sanctioned UN, NATO and European Union missions, the SPD wants them involved only in UN peace-keeping. The remainder of the parties' manifestos on taxes, atomic energy and autobahn speed limits could serve as a cure for insomnia. Blessed indeed is a world with a boring Germany.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WORRIED TOURIST

Sir, - I found a great deal of irony in the fact that your October article indicating the selection of the shalom logo for tourism appeared on the same page as articles detailing bombs injuring tourists, an attempted kidnapping and IDF shelling in Lebanon.

As a frequent traveler to Israel for many years, I am very sad to say that this year my concern for true peace and personal safety is at an all time high. When I tried to contact the Israel Consulate and Tourist Office in New York prior to my trip asking for information on safe travel in light of terrorist prisoner releases and armed terrorist police forces in Gaza and Jericho, they failed to respond or indicated that no information was available. To my dismay, my parents were unwilling to join me on my trip this year due to safety concerns.

Airport customs people detained me and took an imprint of my credit card for bringing my US/system camera, which had been allowed in without incident on three previous occasions. My detention caused a significant delay in my attempt to reach Jerusalem before the Sabbath.

A trip I made to the Golan with Israeli friends using the bypass road proved a hazardous and slow way to avoid passing through Jericho. The Jerusalem Tourist Office directed me to the Turjem Gate by telling me to go to Damascus Gate without informing me of the potential dangers.

If the Ministry of Tourism intends

to use the dove as a symbol of peace in their logo, they are lying to potential tourists. Instead of wasting money to spread the lie that peace has arrived in Israel, the Tourism Ministry should publish and distribute information that will allow tourists to come and go in peace in this beautiful country.

When you consider that tourism is the single largest source of commerce in the country, it would be nice if Israel would make peace with tourists before making peace with terrorists. That day has not yet arrived.

ROY SACKS

Jerusalem (New York).

HUMAN DIGNITY

Sir, - In his letter of August 21, "No recognition of Israel," Dr. Chandra Muzaffar states: "...[Malaysia] as a nation which cherishes human dignity... understands how much peace with honor must mean for the Palestinian people."

While living in the US, I have met four Malaysian Chinese who have told me that they emigrated from Malaysia to escape the discrimination by the Malay majority against the Chinese minority.

How amusing to see the Malaysians now preaching morals to Israelis! My advice to Dr. Muzaffar is "Practice what you preach!"

Los Angeles. SAMI AMBAR

HIGH RISES

Sir, - I refer to your report of October 5, "Government to promote high rises." According to Shimon Sheves, director general of the prime minister's office, "building more apartments on the same amount of land will lower housing costs."

Even though the statement sounds logical, it is incorrect. What will happen is that the price of land that has been rezoned for high-rise buildings skyrockets, giving the owners of such real estate a windfall profit. The building contractors will then simply pass on this higher price that they paid for the land to the buyers of the apartments. The end effect will be: rich speculators and a cluttered skyline of our cities. The apartment buyers will receive no advantage.

Jerusalem. GEORGE SZPIRO

REAL COURAGE

Sir, - What Jon Simons is actually calling for in his op-ed piece of October 7, "Non-Jews in the Israeli 'club'" is the demise of Israel as a Jewish state. Unfortunately, he has the courage to say this unequivocally.

In contradistinction, perhaps, just perhaps, Rabbi Kahane's so-called "evil genius" to which Mr. Simons refers, was nothing more than the honesty to define a potentially grave problem, coupled with the courage to suggest an unpopular solution thereto.

Tel Aviv. DAVID J. HEIMOWITZ



After a week of agony

OVER the weekend, almost every part of the Zionist camp was in agreement that Prime Minister Rabin's decision on Friday to try and rescue Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann by force was right. This view has held, despite the tragic failure of the IDF mission to get their man out alive.

Since the late '60s, Israel has followed a policy of refusing to give in to terrorist demands. There has been only one exception to this rule, and it aroused great controversy.

In 1985, the national unity government released 1,150 Palestinian and other terrorists in return for three Israeli soldiers who had fallen into captivity during the Lebanon War. This massive release was the culmination of protracted negotiations with the Ahmed Jibril terrorist organization.

Israel's leaders, Labor or Likud, have always preferred to stand up to terrorism, no matter what the risks, in the firm belief that submission can only encourage use of the same methods, and that, in the final account, the number of victims would grow.

There has also been no essential disagreement across the political spectrum about the need to use every means available to fight terror - from direct confrontation with terrorists and terrorist leaders to action aimed at deterring those who furnish terrorists with ideological, financial and military assistance.

In this war, Israel's governments have been anything but lukewarm.

Where governments have differed is in their analysis of the causes of anti-Israel terrorism, and of the measures needed to uproot these causes.

The basic assumption of the left is that terror is the last resort of the hopeless. From this, it follows that

SUSAN HATTIS ROLE

a livable compromise between Israel and the Palestinians would reduce to a minimum those who see terrorism as the only alternative.

The left believes that the Palestinians who signed the Declaration of Principles, and with whom Israel is continuing to negotiate the further implementation of interim agreements, are truly resigned to a new, compromise-based reality in the Palestinian-Israeli relationship.

HOWEVER, Israel has yet to be truly convinced that these Palestinians are willing and able to take

The peace process is still the surest way to defeat terrorism

decisive action against the forces which oppose compromise, advocate the use of terror and are still backed by a large, albeit diminishing, minority within the Palestinian community in the territories.

Clearly, the left cannot guarantee that the current process will succeed. But they are in no doubt that it is the only process which can succeed. That is why they are continuing to back it, despite last week's agonizing incidents - perhaps because of them.

The right assumes that as long as there is a Jewish state in the Middle East, large sections of the Palestinian population will continue to support the use of terror against it. They believe that the only way to keep terrorism down to a minimum is through direct Israeli control of the territories.

It is an illusion, these Israelis

argue, that a partial satisfaction of maximalist Palestinian ideals, as laid down in the Palestine National Covenant, could ever cause a change of heart among most Palestinians.

Thus the left believes that the peace process, as it has evolved since the Oslo Agreement, is the surest way to defeat terrorism (while reacting to individual attacks as stringently as ever); while the right holds that the process which has evolved since the Oslo Agreement merely strengthens terrorists' motives and their ability to act. As Israel gradually withdraws from the territories and is replaced by the Palestinian Authority, they will, the right points out, find it increasingly easy to act undisturbed.

This is not a debate which can be decided on the academic level. Like so many other issues, only history will tell which side was right.

But history is made by men, and those who wield power have the greatest chance of influencing its course.

Likud leaders might agree with Rabin's actions over the weekend; but they will continue to try to bring his government down and replace it with one of their own, in order, among other things, to change the basis of his peace policy.

For Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres, the peace process isn't just about getting the Nobel Peace Prize. It is about creating a new reality in which no Israeli will ever again be abducted out of another people's nationalist motives, one in which no Israeli prime minister will ever again have to make the kind of decision Rabin had to make on Friday.

The writer is a political commentator.

The same old myths again

GERALD STEINBERG

the legitimacy of the Jewish state, and denies the long history of Jewish links to the Land of Israel and Israel's inherent right to exist.

The land, according to the Syrians, is "Palestinian," and, as usual, the number of refugees is inflated many times above any reasonable estimate. And if Israel was created by force, against the

us to maintain that the civilian settlements they shelled in the 1950s and 1960s were legitimate military targets, there is every reason to expect a repetition of this scenario after Israel withdraws from the Golan.

The government's response to Syria has been predictably docile. For both Rabin and Peres, the question of historic responsibility is irrelevant. The focus of attention is totally toward the unpredictable future. Neither man apparently subscribes to the adage that those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

The same attitude can be discerned in the context of negotiations with Yasser Arafat and the PLO.

The mutual recognition agreement and the Declaration of Principles are explicitly linked to the PLO's pledge to amend its charter and remove the explicit references to the destruction of Israel. Over the past year, however, the PLO has not moved to alter this document. Instead, we have been bombarded by a series of technical and political explanations for why the time is "not yet right."

For both Israelis and Arabs, these changes, however, are very important as a sign that the core of the conflict has been resolved, and the legitimacy of Israel, at last, accepted. Without these changes, there is no peace process.

By repeating the old myths, Shara's efforts to appeal to the Israeli public directly backfired. The first step to peace is recognition and acceptance of responsibility for the hatred, violence, terror and wars directed at Israel and the Jewish people. Only after reality is finally acknowledged can serious discussion begin on security arrangements, diplomatic relations - and bus routes between Damascus and Jerusalem.

The writer directs the arms control program of the BESA Center for Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University.

Ave Maria

JONATHAN BLASS

THE recent image on TV of Achinoam Nini singing her "Ave Maria" on Sabbath and in St. Peter's Square in Rome, for an audience which included the Pope and Mother Theresa, indicates the direction Israeli society is heading.

The Israeli performer, who reportedly wrote her "Ave Maria" as a tribute to the American-led forces in the Gulf War, said that, for her, the Virgin Mary represented perfection and purity.

That Jews over the centuries have preferred to die at the stake rather than acknowledge any of the icons of Catholicism is, apparently, no more than a distant historical episode to Nini. "It's all the same God," she blithely told a radio interviewer.

What do Achinoam Nini and Shimon Peres have in common?

Nini isn't alone in her indifference to Jewish history and tradition. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's audacious disregard for history is almost breathtaking.

Most recently, he appealed to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, asking him to send German troops to participate in a peacekeeping force on the Golan. Kohl, aware of the German-Israeli military faceoff that could result from Peres's proposal and not as sure as Peres that the world has forgotten the results of the last German-Jewish confrontation, turned him down flat.

What both Nini and the foreign minister are pursuing is freedom.

Nini is unwilling to allow her career to be curtailed by the particularities of Jewish tradition, history or truth. Adopting Western, Christian symbols makes her songs more "universal," hence more marketable.

PERES, for his part, is unwilling to be shackled by a past he is hoping to relegate to irrelevance. To that end, he is willing to allow foreign investment in PLO institutions and recognize the "religious" rights of other nations in Israel's capital, even before the onset of negotiations. An unrelenting Israeli commitment to Jerusalem based on history or religion, like a commitment to Jewish settlement in the Golan based on traditional Zionist values, would tie Peres down, restricting his freedom to integrate Israel into the world community.

Both Nini and Peres are trying to break out of the confines imposed by what has come to be seen as Jewish parochialism. Both desire to become players on the broader fields of general European culture and values.

In her flight from the perceived provincialism of Jewish tradition, Nini chose to ignore the martyrdom of thousands of Jews who were persecuted by the same church that sponsored her performance of "Ave Maria." Peres, no less avid in his quest for expanded vistas, is happy to forget the murders of hundreds of Israeli and Jewish civilians at the hands of his terrorist partners in the peace process. After all, memories of the past, like current realities, can limit options for the future. And freedom is all-important.

But for what purpose? Willingness to challenge accepted values that have lost their inspirational luster is admirable only if it is the preamble to a more ideal substitute, not if it is going to land the country in the mucky bog of selfish materialism.

Peres's vision of a New Middle East means sacrificing the exclusivity of Jewish rights to the Land of Israel and faith in the objective morality of Jewish imperatives for open borders and the chance for a more prosperous, less threatened existence. Is this vision noble enough to serve as an alternative to the idealism, rooted in a belief in the separateness and sanctity of the Jewish people, that has propelled the nation since its inception?

And was Nini's comment on the sameness of all deities an indication of spiritual depth or commercial flattery?

Judaism and its obligations, Jewish history and religion, have come to be regarded as an albatross, as something that must be shaken off, to allow Israelis a full measure of freedom in their political and cultural lives.

But the natural outcome of that would be the disappearance of the Jewish state into the morass-like homogeneity of Western materialism.

Is freedom incompatible with rediscovering a Jewish idealism that can soar in authentic Jewish self-expression?

Until we learn to reconcile freedom with Jewish identity, Nini's recital of "Ave Maria" is a gloomy sign of things to come.

The writer, rabbi of Neveh Tzuf in Samaria, heads Ratzon Yehuda, a rabbinical training program for graduates of Yeshivat Hesder.

Who? Us?

Washington Really Is in Touch. We're the Problem.



By MICHAEL WINES

Who can govern while all those phones, faxes and focus groups are yelling?

THE problem with Washington, conventional wisdom has it, is that it is out of touch with the real America. Madison's citizen-legislators who came to the capital every so often to do the people's business have been supplanted by a corps of professional politicians, living in splendid isolation.

Public servants come to the capital full of pure intentions and then, it is said, fall into the orbit of special interests and develop a tin ear to the cries of constituents. The latest Congress, known primarily for blocking almost any idea in its path, is but the most striking example of a system gone haywire. It is a simple and compelling explanation of what ails the republic. But it is almost certainly wrong.

Washington is more open, less corrupt, more responsive and more accountable than at any time in history. Its principal problem is not that it listens too little, but that it listens — and is shouted at — too much. The insular, tone-deaf town assailed in hundreds of campaign commercials this autumn died about the time Richard Nixon left office.

Modern Washington is wired for quadrophonic

sound and wide-screen video, lashed by fax, computer, 800 number, overnight poll, FedEx, grassroots mail, air shuttle and CNN to every citizen in every village on the continent and, too, its every twitch is blared to the world, thanks to C-Span, open-meetings laws, financial-disclosure reports and campaign spending rules, and its every misstep is logged in a database for the use of some future office-seeker.

American government is in touch with everyone, moving in sync with the opinion of the moment as gracefully as blackbirds rising in unison from a field. The blackbirds, of course, often go nowhere. Sure, many of the changes in political morals and technology may be good — who wants an unaccountable government? — but the cumulative effect has been to turn a somewhat slow and contemplative system into some-

thing more like a 500-channel democracy, with the clicker grasped tightly in the hands of the electorate.

As a result, modern politicians have become slaves to public opinion, and what voters profess to want — the unpopular vote, made out of conscience — has become an immensely difficult act.

All this is only slightly less true for the executive branch, a body so intimate with its electorate that the voters know their President's preference in undergarments and their President — according to a newly leaked memo from his pollster — knows not just the issues but the precise phrases that most excite the voters.

"I've been involved in politics for 26 years," Representative Mike Kopetski, a 44-year-old Oregon Democrat, said in a chat last week. "I've worked on U.S. Senate campaigns, worked for the Oregon legislature, served on the Senate Watergate Committee, was a member of the Oregon legislature." Four years ago he won election to Congress. Two years ago, he won a plum assignment, the Ways and Means Committee. And this year, at the peak of his career, he announced that he would not run again.

Mr. Kopetski says he loves public service. But the job of politician, he says, has become almost impossibly arduous, especially if done well. He is expected to fly

home every week. His office fax runs nonstop. On some mornings, the answering machine holds 100 overnight calls from constituents, moved by a talk-radio program or C-Span. He gets 500 letters a week — not including computer-generated mail and phony grass-roots postcard barrages — and he says answers them all.

The Heat Is On

Many such messages are thoughtful. Others apparently have been sent because it is so cheap and satisfying. "It's like a stove," Mr. Kopetski says of voters' messages to his office. "Someone turns on the burner, and it heats right up." Now, Mr. Kopetski says, "I just want to live the rest of my life."

Mass communications — talk radio and 24-hour news at one end; cheap telephony and computer communications at the other — is largely responsible for creating this electronic din. One of its effects is to make legislation that passes much more complex, as lawmakers insert and rewrite clauses to satisfy hundreds of interests that never wrote Capitol Hill or the White House 20 years ago, and probably did not even exist.

Another is to sway and even stop legislation — for

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Prize or No, Arafat Still Has Much to Prove

By JOEL GREENBERG

EVEN as he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize last week for his accord with Israel, Yasser Arafat faced his most critical test as leader of the Palestinians: Can he deliver to his own people, and to Israel, the sense of security on which peace is based?

In the three months since he returned to Gaza to set up a provisional government, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization has presided over the beginnings of a physical rebuilding, but has yet to establish real optimism. People remain cynical — in particular about whether Mr. Arafat, as the governor of a territory, can shed the autocratic habits he acquired as a guerrilla leader. And while Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho have been relatively tranquil, he has yet to disarm the militants who threaten the peace talks and the self-rule arrangement itself.

A High-Wire Act

So the kidnapping and killing last week of an Israeli soldier, Cpl. Nahshon Waxman, by the militant Islamic group Hamas, threw into sharp relief the question of whether Mr. Arafat is moving effectively to establish his authority as the governing leader of the Palestinians.

Even though it turned out that the soldier was not held on soil under Mr. Arafat's control — he was killed by his captors Friday as Israeli commandos raided their hideout north of Jerusalem — the kidnapping shook Mr. Arafat's unsteady authority in the self-rule zones. During the five days the soldier was held, the kidnapping forced him to walk a tightrope between demands from Israel that he crack down on the militants, and warnings from his radical Muslim rivals that he not become a tool of the Israelis. As he executed this balancing



Yasser Arafat flanked by his aides during a ceremony in August.

act last week, ordering the arrest of 160 militants in the process, he exposed a basic vulnerability in the Israeli-Palestinian accord.

For months Mr. Arafat had resisted Israeli demands that he confront and disarm Hamas in his territory; he insisted that the movement could be pacified by drawing it into Palestinian politics. Now the question of his long-run willingness to make war on the organization is more critical than ever, with both Hamas — which Saturday rallied thousands of supporters to protest the arrests, and threatened to "make Gaza burn," — and Israel clearly stating their terms.

As Mr. Arafat's policemen rounded up Hamas figures in response to Israeli pressure to find the kidnappers last week, a senior Hamas figure, Mahmud Zahar, warned: "I am telling Yasser Arafat, do not repeat the experience of the occupation. If you want to continue this path, you will have to suffer the consequences."

A few hours later, in announcing that the effort to rescue the soldier had failed, a grim Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, declared: "Whoever wants to advance peace must fight the radical, murderous terrorists of Hamas and Islamic Jihad and the rejectionists because they are the murderers of peace."

The pressure to make a choice between working with Hamas and making peace with Israel came amid the first, tentative signs of recovery in Gaza under the administration of Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

After years of neglect, streets there do look cleaner. Walls long defaced by nationalist graffiti are freshly whitewashed, and some fetid piles of garbage in vacant lots have disappeared. Groups of men, employed in a \$5 million dollar clean-up campaign funded by Japan through the United Nations, push brooms at street corners and paint walls.

But Gaza, the center of Palestinian self-rule,

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Picking neighborhoods to patrol can be a tricky business.

By Elaine Sciolino

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That's Entertainment!

The Japanese wanted to learn about Hollywood. Now, they have.

By David E. Sanger

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Haiti's Patois

Where 'justice' can mean 'revenge.'

By Larfy Rohter

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David Scull/The New York Times

The World

The Reluctant Policeman Is Still Picky About His Beat

By ELAINE SCIOFINO

WATCHING Americans revel in the apparent success of its military operations in Iraq and Haiti last week, it was easy to think that the United States had finally pinned on its badge and become the thing it least wanted to be: policeman of the world.

American troops, after all, had been put in harm's way in two elaborately publicized missions. The United States had declared itself fed up with (or at least wise to) two dictators known for their brutality. And the welcomes accorded the G.I.'s by dirt-poor Haitians and filthy-rich Kuwaitis seemed to cheer the American people, encouraging them to do this kind of thing again.

But wait a minute. Two incidents do not make a trend. And in many ways, the two vastly different cases illustrate how armed intervention can be expected to be the exception rather than the rule in the future.

Since the late 19th century, American policy makers have agonized over whether the United States had the responsibility to save other countries from their own bad habits. "We Americans," said President Benjamin Harrison in 1888, "have no commission from God to police the world." Theodore Roosevelt disagreed, telling Congress in 1904 that the United States had a duty to exercise an "internal police power" in the Western Hemisphere to deal with "chronic wrongdoing, or an impotence which results in a general loosening of the ties of civilized society."

The historical tension has been reflected most recently in President Clinton's own thinking: It is not unusual for him to proclaim in the same speech that while the United States must be "the world's leader," it also must not be "the world's policeman."

Last month, his national security adviser, Anthony Lake, seemed to be saying that this means the United States should shorten the days of all sorts of wrongdoers: "Extreme nationalists and tribalists, terrorists, organized criminals, coup plotters, rogue states and all those who would return newly freed societies to the intolerant ways of the past." He proposed to do that by

spreading democracy and opening markets. But which of these bad guys are so bad that the United States has to send in the Marines? He didn't say.

A lot of countries, it turns out, aren't on the list. Certainly not any of the floundering states around Russia's rim; that's in Boris Yeltsin's backyard. Not Bosnia, which is left to the Europeans. Not Rwanda either, although a few American supply troops did take food and water to refugees. The effort at "nation-building" in Somalia was an early and much-regretted exception; the Administration had no stomach for sticking around after the first few G.I.'s were killed.

And what about the crises that are not at the top of the evening news? King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia has warned Washington that his country may once again fall to the Khmer Rouge rebels. An 11-year civil war in Sudan has left an estimated one million people dead. More people die every day in Kabul, Afghanistan, than in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Yet in each of these cases, there is absolutely no appetite for intervention.

The United States, under Bill Clinton just as under George Bush, tackles only those crises that are too

Intervention in Haiti and Iraq, however successful, is the exception, not the rule.

serious or too painful or too close to home to avoid, while ignoring others or leaving them for other policemen to resolve.

Haiti was a crisis that was too close to home, and the United States stumbled into a diplomatic cul-de-sac that made the use of force more and more necessary. Now Americans have been thrust into a police role so uncomfortably literal that a former New York City police commissioner is struggling to reform the police force while the State Department has hired a private security firm to help protect the restored President,



A marine transported a wounded child to a hospital in Mogadishu, Somalia, in December 1992.

Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Iraq was a crisis too serious to ignore. No American President could allow another invasion of Kuwait. And the delicate status quo was deemed vital: The flow of oil from the region had to be kept steady, and Saddam Hussein had to be kept within his borders, but with just enough military access to the south to prevent an uprising by Shiite rebels that could dismember Iraq and strengthen Iran.

Mr. Clinton summarized all that in his television address last week, saying that while he had acted in Haiti to restore its elected Government, the goal in Iraq was to "preserve stability in the Persian Gulf."

Feeding the Appetite

The two interventions highlight a paradox of America's attitude toward the rest of the world: Assuming these actions continue to go well, their very success will put more and more demands on the United States to act as global policeman, even though Washington is determined not to do that.

J. Brian Atwood, head of the Agency for International Development, warns of the "threat of chaos" worldwide. "Increasingly," he wrote recently, "we are confronted by countries without leadership, without

order, without governance itself." And that has turned on its head the way much of the world sees the stronger powers. No longer is there an automatic rejection of intervention. Quite the contrary; it can be welcome.

Take Father Aristide. Before he was ousted, he would sit in his Presidential Palace, railing about his imperialist neighbor to the north. Now, having been presented with a plan to return to Haiti on the shoulders of the marines, he had this message for his saviors: "Thank you. Thank you. Thank you."

While the United States resists the role of policeman, it is less reluctant to be a police chief; this is one reason the United States and its allies are involved in a circular argument about Bosnia that goes nowhere. When American policy makers press for more robust attacks by NATO forces on the Serbs, the British and French tartly remind them that they, not the Americans, are the ones with troops on the ground who would be endangered by such action.

On the other hand, the American attitude sits well enough with Serbia's President, Slobodan Milosevic. In the spring of 1993, when it became apparent that the United States would not contribute troops to the peace-keeping force in Bosnia, he declared: "I appreciate very much that the United States will not be the world's policeman, to put everything in order in its own view."

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Your Gift Search is Over

Prize or No, Arafat Still Has Much to Prove



Yasser Arafat and a Palestinian boy at the Nuseirat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

Continued from page 1

is still a long way from law and order. Hamas gunmen occasionally ride through neighborhoods, rifles poking out of their cars, in defiance of Palestinian policemen. Police officers try to direct downtown traffic, but their presence is otherwise hardly felt. Since setting up his provisional government there last July, Mr. Arafat has yet to transform the abidingly cynical community, ground down by years of occupation, into a civic-minded society.

Accustomed to leading a guerrilla movement, he prefers to work through personal influence and patronage. He is reluctant to delegate responsibility, and takes a dim view of demands for greater accountability from both Palestinians and foreign governments, which are withholding financial aid until they know how it will be spent.

Over lunch several weeks ago in his office on Gaza's seashore, Mr. Arafat shrugged off suggestions that he has had to make a profound adjustment from being a globe-trotting symbol of the Palestinian movement to manager of Gaza and Jericho. "For me it's the same, being outside and inside," he insisted, as timid aides listened intently. "The P.L.O. has been working for a long time as a government. From the P.L.O. budgets we were spending between 25 to 30 million dollars per month for schools, for universities, hospitals, education, health services. I was doing the same from the beginning."

Beyond the questions raised by his style of rule, Mr. Arafat is caught in a vise created by the peculiar circumstances of Palestinian self-government in Gaza.

Despite the withdrawal of Israeli troops from most of the Gaza Strip, its population is still heavily dependent on Israel. Tens of thousands of Gazan workers still need entry permits from Israel, which controls the area's borders, even with Egypt. Severely ill Palestinians still seek referrals to Israeli hospitals because they are better equipped than those in Gaza.

In other words, the realities of daily life have not changed much. Skeptical Gazans say they still face the same hardships, with

the Israeli occupiers simply replaced by Palestinians in uniform. To them, Mr. Arafat seems less the leader of an embryonic state than the steward of an Israeli protectorate, a supplicant who in talks with Israel asks only for more carefully measured doses of freedom.

Mr. Arafat is also hamstrung by internal constraints.

Attacks by Hamas, such as the kidnapping and a shooting spree in Jerusalem last Sunday that killed two people and wounded 13, eat away at the authority of his provisional government, which is bound by the agreement with Israel to stop such violence.

A Choice

Trying to cobble together a consensus that would strengthen his rule, Mr. Arafat has met with Hamas leaders in an effort to draw them into his administration. But what Israel wants is for him to stifle the militants to show that Palestinian self-rule does not threaten Israeli security.

Mr. Arafat's response has been the traditional recourse of the weak: Move cautiously. To appease Israel, he ordered the arrests of Muslim militants, including last week's sweep. But in the past he has set most of the prisoners free, to avoid an irreparable break with the Islamic radicals.

One way Mr. Arafat might strengthen his position is to hold elections, allowing him to reassert his leadership and emboldening him to move decisively against the militants. Israel and the P.L.O. have begun to negotiate about elections, but persistent attacks by Hamas threaten to derail the talks, as they did last week.

According to the Israeli-P.L.O. accord signed last year, the elections must be preceded by an Israeli pullback in the West Bank. But the Israelis say they are hesitant to withdraw until Mr. Arafat shows he can control the militants. "It's a Catch-22 situation," said Khalil Shikaki, a critic of Mr. Arafat who is director of the Center for Palestine Research and Studies in Nabulus. "Arafat needs elections so he can deliver security. But the Israelis say there can't be elections until he delivers security first."

The World

Aristide Can Speak, But Can the U.S. Hear?

By LARRY ROHTER

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti
N. Haiti's 200 years as an independent nation, no president deposed in a palace coup had ever been restored to office before the Rev. Jean-Bertrand Aristide arrived here Saturday after three years in exile. As befits a man of the cloth whose long-suffering followers call him "ti pwofet," or the "little prophet," his return was celebrated with a fervor that was almost religious in its intensity and as an occasion that offered the promise of deliverance after a generation in the wilderness.

But Father Aristide owes his extraordinary political resurrection less to the moral force of his ideals and his supporters than to the presence of foreign troops, 18,000 at the

deceptions it encourages, where three in four people are illiterate and both French and Creole are official tongues, it is hardly surprising that verbal facility is more valued than ability to offer a coherent political program.

Perhaps more than anyone in modern Haitian life, Father Aristide has shown both skills. "He has a remarkable command of language," a fellow priest, the Rev. Frantz-Michel Grandot, said. "He has a striking ability to use the images, phrases, proverbs and parables of spoken Creole to draw parallels between the life of the oppressed Jewish people at the time of Christ and the historic suffering of the Haitian people, oppressed by domestic and foreign forces."

But if Father Aristide portrays Haiti's poor blacks as a chosen people, then, by implication, the largely mulatto elite is left to play the role of the Pharisees. Or so the privileged assume, and respond with unrelenting hostility. "Half the people see him as a messiah, and half as the devil incarnate," said an intellectual who leans toward the second opinion. The percentages may be off, given that Father Aristide won two of every three votes in the December 1990 election, but no Haitian doubts that this is, more than ever, a polarized society.

To hear his adversaries tell it, Father Aristide has consistently fomented divisions, a prime example being the speech he delivered at the United Nations this month. "We will prepare the coffee of reconciliation through the filter of justice," he said. That homespun phrase seemed innocuous enough to Americans, but in a country where the legal system is associated not with due process but with the ability of the powerful to abuse the weak, it was interpreted as a coded call for revenge.

"It doesn't necessarily mean there has to be punishment of those who are guilty," said Suzy Castor, director of a social policy research institute here. "But there must be an acknowledgment of sin. This is now part of our national patrimony, and we must recognize it before we can pardon it."

To the United States, on the other hand, reconciliation "means forgetting about what happened, accepting that there is a



Supporters of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide during a demonstration in the town of Croix des Bouquets, Haiti.

new situation that prevails, and pretty much asking Aristide to turn the other cheek," said Alex Dupuy, a Haitian sociologist who teaches at Wesleyan University. "They don't want a housecleaning or a public confession of crimes in Haiti."

Mandela's Example

The American ambassador here, William L. Swing, was formerly the envoy to South Africa, and Haitians say embassy officials have argued that if Nelson Mandela made a new beginning with whites after a generation of apartheid, Father Aristide can do so with his opponents after three years of exile.

Both the United States and Father Aristide also say that they want to see democracy in Haiti. But the United States empha-

sizes the formal electoral process and institutions associated with it. Father Aristide, in contrast, wrote in his autobiography that "I do not believe that liberal and parliamentary democracy is in itself the indispensable corollary, the sole result and unique end of the movement for human rights." He has in the past preferred a democracy he calls "participatory, uncomplicated and in permanent motion," but which his adversaries regard as a formula for demagoguery.

Many of his associates argue that exile has made Father Aristide less the zealous Old Testament prophet and more the modern statesman. "He has learned a lot in the United States," said the Rev. Gerard Jean-Juste. "He has been redeemed, become a more mature, more democratic man."

But if that is so, the little prophet may

alienate his most ardent followers. Father Aristide rose as the head not of a political party but of a loosely organized movement called Lavalas, a Creole term he has defined as "a river with many sources, a flood that would sweep away all the dross, all the after-effects of a shameful past." Already there are complaints that an economic plan disclosed last week is a betrayal of ideals, more suited to the University of Chicago than to his slum stronghold of Cité Soleil.

But if it is possible to channel the energy of Lavalas, Father Aristide remains the one to do it. "He is, after all, a priest, and one of his jobs is to preach," said a Haitian intellectual. "He has raised the hopes of his flock higher and higher. Now we will see if he also knows how to pacify them and the Americans at the same time."

Diplomats arriving in Haiti are told to believe 'nothing you hear and only half of what you see.'

moment. He must now prove that he can speak the pragmatic language of his American patrons — and they in turn are going to have to adapt to his quintessentially Haitian style of discourse.

Neither task promises to be easy. Just this month, an American diplomat here pronounced himself perplexed by the "Alice in Wonderland quality" of Haitian politics, where words seem to mean only what their speakers want them to mean. Nor is he the first to feel confused. Citing the phrase coined by a former ambassador, diplomats here routinely counsel new arrivals that in Haiti it is best to believe "nothing you hear and only half of what you see."

In a society built on slavery and the

When G-Notes Are Small Change

ONCE upon a time in Russia, consumer goods were scarce, imports were rare, lines were long and prices were relatively stable. But since the country started its high-anxiety ride through Free Marketland, goods are usually available and lines have all but vanished. Prices, however, have been anything but stable since they were freed in January 1992. Once people stopped waiting, they started paying more. So employers, helped by the Government, started paying them more.

The resulting inflationary spiral eased this spring and summer, but in the past two months inflation began to return. Last week the currency markets were thrown into turmoil as the ruble fell off a cliff, its value

dropping 27 percent in a day. By week's end, two senior economic officials were out, the Central Bank intervened and the ruble recovered, trading at about 3,000 to the dollar.

While President Boris N. Yeltsin looked for scapegoats, he took no note of the two most obvious causes: recent injections of government credits into agriculture and industry, and the Central Bank's earlier move to reduce its support of the ruble.

Meanwhile, Russians try to get by. These figures, taken from unpublished data compiled by the State Committee on Statistics, indicate how hard they have to work, and how many bricks of thousand-ruble notes they have to lug around, to stay even.

FELICITY BARRINGER



Counting 1,000-ruble notes.

Tables show average prices and the time it takes the average worker to earn that much.

RUSSIAN INCOME AND EXPENSES			RUBLES NOT ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994 through Aug
Average monthly wage	303.00	548.00	5,985.00	58,663.00	181,483.00
Sugar, per pound	0.40	1.11	61.46	342.00	552.00
	13 minutes	19 minutes	1:38 hours	56 minutes	29 minutes
Bread, per pound	0.11	0.32	10.84	96.16	264.00
	3 minutes	6 minutes	17 minutes	16 minutes	14 minutes
Milk, half-gallon	0.59	1.27	47.31	665.00	1,322.00
	19 minutes	22 minutes	1:16 hours	1:49 hours	1:10 hours
Sausage, per pound	1.72	7.71	123.00	1,520.00	2,783.00
	54 minutes	2:15 hours	3:17 hours	4:08 hours	2:27 hours
Vodka, fifth	15.39	19.10	422.00	3,614.00	4,874.00
	8:07 hours	5:35 hours	11:16 hours	9:51 hours	4:18 hours
Gasoline, per gallon	1.58	2.15	117.00	743.00	1,440.00
	49 minutes	38 minutes	3:07 hours	2:02 hours	1:16 hours
Woman's dress (wool)	93.47	321.00	2,549.00	21,144.00	52,548.00
	6 days	12 days	9 days	7 days	6 days
Man's suit	179.00	633.00	6,583.00	49,764.00	98,554.00
	12 days	23 days	22 days	17 days	11 days
Television	814.00	2,161.00	75,721.00	401,574.00	645,902.00
	54 days	79 days	253 days	137 days	71 days

AMERICAN INCOME AND EXPENSES, IN COMPARISON			DOLLARS NOT ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION		
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994 through Sept.
Average monthly wage	1,380.00	1,416.00	1,456.00	1,496.00	1,528.00
Sugar, per pound	0.43	0.43	0.42	0.41	0.41
	3 minutes	3 minutes	3 minutes	3 minutes	3 minutes
Bread, per pound	0.70	0.71	0.75	0.75	0.78
	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes
Milk, half-gallon	1.42	1.37	1.39	1.39	1.41
	10 minutes	9 minutes	9 minutes	9 minutes	9 minutes
Sausage, per pound	2.35	2.41	2.21	2.11	1.96
	16 minutes	16 minutes	15 minutes	14 minutes	12 minutes
Gasoline, per gallon	1.41	1.18	1.20	1.14	1.24
	10 minutes	8 minutes	8 minutes	7 minutes	8 minutes
Television/average	440.00	435.00	437.00	439.00	425.00
	6 days	6 days	6 days	6 days	6 days

Sources: Russian State Statistics Committee; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Electronic Industries Association

The New York Times

Hollywood Beckoned, Leading Japanese Astray

By DAVID E. SANGER

WASHINGTON
BACK in the heyday of Japan's buying spree in America, when Tokyo's most ostentatious restaurants were still topping their sushi with edible gold leaf, the chairman of Sony, Akio Morita, had a simple prescription for Americans who worried that their cultural treasures were falling into Japanese hands.

"If you don't want Japan to buy it," he said breezily over dinner one night just after he engineered the purchase of Columbia Pictures, "don't sell it."

Five years later, the shopping should be better than ever for the Japanese. The yen is stronger than any time in modern history, yet Japanese investment in the United States has plummeted 50 percent, from \$32 billion in 1989 to less than \$15 billion last year. And no one in Congress is about to hold hearings to learn if Nintendo plans to relocate the Seattle Mariners to Kyoto.

After a series of embarrassing disasters — in real estate, in tire-making, and most conspicuously in Hollywood — it turns out the hearings should have been held in the Japanese Parliament. And the questioning should have followed a different line: How did so many America-savvy industrialists get suckered into paying billions of dollars for assets that have since melted away?

After dropping a modest \$5 billion on Columbia Pictures, Sony spent another \$500 million or so (the exact figure is in dispute) to win the services of two of Hollywood's golden names, Jon Peters and Peter Guber. Both have since flown the coop. Mr. Peters in 1991 and Mr. Guber two weeks ago, and Columbia is said to be hemorrhaging money. But that may turn out to be the lesser debacle when compared to the choices facing Matsushita Electric Industrial Company, the world's largest consumer electronics company, known in America for its Panasonic products.

Matsushita spent \$6.1 billion for MCA Inc., the parent of Universal Pictures, in 1990. At the time the move seemed driven chiefly by Matsushita's 40-year inferiority complex about Sony's seemingly keen understanding of American consumers. And of course there was a lot of vague talk about a new era of multimedia in which the riches will flow to those who can create "synergy" between software and hardware.

Then last week, they discovered that they have more to learn about synergy, Hollywood-style. Two of MCA's biggest creative talents, the filmmaker Steven Spielberg and the billionaire record producer David Geffen, announced they would head off to start their own company with the former head of Walt Disney studios, Jeffrey Katzenberg. They may soon be joined by the two leaders of MCA, Lew R. Wasserman and Sidney J. Sheinberg, who are reportedly preparing to tell Matsushita that they want to buy the studio back — presumably at a discount — or depart as well, leaving Matsushita with a back lot and no one to run it.

While the American movie industry was

twittering about the creation of the first new studio in half a century and a potentially seismic realignment of creative talent in Hollywood, it's a safe bet that the view from Tokyo was not tinged with the same excitement. There, such acts of corporate disloyalty are virtually unthinkable. And there would be swift and effective ways to deal with restless samurai who defected.

But as Masaru Yoshitomi, a former senior Japanese government official now running the U.S.-Japan Management Study Center at the Wharton School said the other day, "It is remarkable how many times Japanese companies that thought they understood the risks of investing in America learn how little they really understood."

What happened in the 1980's was that Japan leapt from one form of investing, in which it retained total control, into another in which it held virtually none. When Honda built its plants in Tennessee or Toshiba made chips in California, the Japanese came as the teacher. No major decision was made without checking with Tokyo.

Thought They Knew Better

But Japan's executives knew far better than to apply such management techniques to the wild egos of Hollywood or, for that matter, in the research facilities they set up from Palo Alto to Cambridge. They reveled in the stories of these wild and crazy Americans, and their extravagant ways.

"From the start, the whole idea was to learn from the American creative spark," said Shojiro Asai, who heads electronics research at Hitachi, one of the few electronics giants that decided to forgo the Emmy's. "That meant stepping back and letting it happen. And politically, these investments were very sensitive. Everyone knew that there could be no control."

The result is that none of Congress's worst fears about Japanese efforts to hijack American culture came true. It was hard to find a Japanese face in the hallway at Columbia or Universal. When there were arguments across the Pacific, they were usually about money, not content. But the result, as many Japanese executives privately lament, is that they never learned the culture they bought into. When Norio Ohga, the president of Sony, was asked at a lunch earlier this year about whatever happened to synergy, he talked briefly about how Sony improved the sound in movie theaters and then changed the subject.

Matsushita says it will not give up on its investment in Universal and talks bravely about being in the movie business for the long term. The embarrassment of selling off could be too great. But it will be a long, long while before Japan spends billions at a drop on America's creative juices, no matter how strong the yen gets, and the day could well come when American industry misses that cash. These days, Japan's money goes to the region Japan knows best — Asia — and into industries it understands. And when Japanese executives get a hankering for Hollywood, they may just go to the movies. After all, in Tokyo it only costs \$30 a head.

Ideas & Trends

From Your Mailbox to Your VCR: More Ads

By ANDY MEISLER

LAST May, Oliver North had a problem. Running hard for the Republican nomination for a Senate seat from Virginia, he needed to get his message across to a select group of voters — the 20,000 or so delegates to the party's nominating convention in Richmond.

Airing commercials on local TV would have been expensive and scattershot. Mailing campaign literature was no good either: it would get lost in the blizzard of mailed political brochures during primary season. Instead Mr. North's campaign opted for a hybrid of both forms of advertising: direct-mail video. The party regulars each got in the mail an 11-minute videocassette with a mini-biography of the ex-Marine colonel and commentary tailored to their concerns.

Thus did the eventual nominee use a new marketing tool that seems to be coming into its own this year, in both American politics and commerce. Tom Edmonds, a political consultant based in Washington, says the appeal of direct-mail video is simple: "You can bypass the mass media and target only the people you want to reach."

He is the 50-year-old founder and president of Political Video Duplicators, a growing, six-year-old subsidiary of his Edmonds Associates Inc. These days, for about \$2 a cassette, Mr. Edmonds can get his clients' fine-tuned pitches onto thousands of demographically desirable TV screens, without buying expensive commercial time on a station or cable system. And he doesn't have to worry about cramming their messages into a 30-second or minute-long time slot.

Breakthroughs in video duplication technology, he says, have made it possible to turn out as many as 50,000 lightweight (and thus cheap to mail) copies of a seven-minute video each day. That is how he was able to turn out 157,000 copies of an anti-Clinton health reform message recently and send them directly to people on an American Conservative Union mailing list. Mr. Edmonds's clients have included Bill Clinton, George Bush and the World Wildlife Fund.

But he might just as well be using direct-mail video to sell exercise machines or



Videos may put the image you want...



... before your audience, as junk mail takes



... new forms. Here, stills from Oliver North's video.

insurance policies, for it has dawned on a wide variety of advertisers that the medium makes economic sense. TV advertisers pay dearly to reach a huge, unfocused group of couch potatoes. For \$400,000, they can buy a minute of commercial time on NBC's "Seinfeld" and reach those among the show's 30 million viewers who haven't left their chairs for the kitchen or bathroom. For the same money, they can reach perhaps 200,000 demographically desirable individuals.

Packing Emotion

Mr. Edmonds says that with 80 percent of American homes equipped with video recorders, it is a good bet that most of his target audience will sit down and watch at least part of any cassette he sends them.

"Video has got sight and sound and motion," he says. "It's active instead of passive. It doesn't take as much energy to watch a video as to read your mail."

Joe Cupani, creative director of Ogilvy & Mather Direct, a large direct-mail agency, says, "If you have to demonstrate something, or get across an emotion, videos are perfect." His company produces 10-minute

Pitching politicians and autos, these are not blockbuster videos — and that's the point.

videos for Jaguar — "an emotional purchase," he says — that include scenes of Jaguars racing, gleaming in the sun and being driven by well-dressed men.

For A.T. & T., Mr. Cupani produced "You're Calling From Where?" showing young Americans having difficulty phoning from abroad. The answer is said to be an A.T. & T. calling card. The tape is mailed to college students heading overseas.

Emotions of another sort are stirred by the Teachers Insurance Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund, a \$130 billion organization that sells insurance to workers at colleges, universities and research institutes. Unable to send "counsel-

ors," as it calls them, to each of 5,000-plus institutions, it sends videos — with titles like "Building Your Future" — instead.

The fashion house of Emanuel Ungaro, aware that not all of its clients can make it to Paris for spring and fall showings, sends out cassettes of runway shows, complete with superimposed order numbers, to a select group of 200. Last year, McDonald's mailed more than 300,000 videotape supplements to its annual report, featuring an "informal conversation" between its chairman and his top officers.

Nonprofit fund-raisers are also taking advantage of the direct emotional appeal of videos. The Southern Poverty Law Center sends its contributors "Seeking Justice," a 15-minute tape showing the organization at work and news footage of the Ku Klux Klan.

"Our purpose is to bond the donor to the law center," said David Watson, the center's fund-raising director. The tape isn't a direct pitch for money, but recipients are asked to recycle the videocassette by mailing it back. "Sometimes they come back with money inside," Mr. Watson said.

Such videotape sales pitches date to at least the early 1980's. A pioneer was Solo-

flex, the exercise machine manufacturer, which began mailing what it called "video brochures" in 1982 and now estimates it has sent out three million. (The 22-minute tape ushered in the extended, late-night "Informercial" in 1986 after deregulation by the Federal Communications Commission.)

Mr. Edmonds says a big factor in the viability of videotape advertising was a production advance made two years ago: short programs can now be duplicated quickly on very long lengths of videotape, then cut up and inserted into cassettes. New lightweight cassette shells keep down mailing costs, and the Postal Service offers sorting services and bulk discounts.

So the trend could well accelerate. And if there is a down side for marketers, it is the same one experienced by any new medium when its novelty wears off.

A few years ago, a Beverly Hills men's clothier, Sami Dinar, began mailing fashion videotapes to clients.

"I stopped doing it," said Mr. Dinar. "It worked at first, but then all my clients started getting videotapes all the time. I'd ask them if they'd seen mine. They told me: 'You know, it's sitting on my VCR.'"

Double Vision

When One Person's Civil Rights Are Another's Moral Outrage

By RICHARD BERNSTEIN

LET'S say you live in a small, tight-knit community of churchgoing Christians and the house next door becomes vacant. An openly homosexual couple wants to rent it. You feel that, as a conservative Christian, you should be able to live in a neighborhood that excludes people because of behavior that you find immoral. Should you, on that basis, have a right to discriminate against the would-be homosexual tenants? Should the state be able to compel you to accept your gay neighbors?

The Colorado Supreme Court last week gave an answer to those questions. Two years ago, several communities passed laws banning anti-gay discrimination in jobs and housing. Those were repealed when voters approved a referendum that prohibited laws extending civil rights protections specifically to gay men and lesbians. Now, in a decision hailed as a major victory by gay-rights advocates, the Colorado court has effectively repealed the repeal.

The anti-gay referendum, it found, singled out one form of discrimination and "removed its redress from consideration by the normal political process." In other words, if local communities want to prohibit housing bias against homosexuals, they have the right, just as they do to prohibit it against blacks or Jews or women.

The battle, however, is far from over. Colorado's Attorney General, Gail Norton, said the state would appeal last week's decision. Other battles are shaping up in Oregon and Idaho, Ohio and Florida, as gay-rights groups are pressing for civil rights protections and running into heated opposition.

And so it looks as though the higher courts will yet have to face some of the most wrenching and fundamental questions about gay people in society today: Are they seeking necessary protection, or are they going beyond that to what the opponents of pro-gay measures commonly call special rights? Are they looking only for tolerance of homosexuality, or do they want people to be compelled to accept it?

No Worse, No Better

"That is the great American question," said Suzanne Goldberg, a lawyer with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a gay-rights group that helped prepare the legal case in Colorado. "How do we insure constitutional equality and, at the same time, recognize individual freedom? I think that the answer is basically that while people are free to pick and choose their friends, the question is a different one when we are talking about commercial interactions or transactions. There, it is for the Government to insure equal opportunity for all people."

Nobody is being compelled to accept any particular opinion about homosexuality, Ms. Goldberg maintains. "Anti-discrimination laws are not about an endorsement of a particular group of people, or a race or religion or a gender," she said. "They aim at promoting equality in society." Homosexuals are asking, as Paul Gewirtz, a professor of constitutional law at Yale put it, "not to be treated worse than other people are treated" — they are not asking to be treated better.

Are matters so simple? Certainly, there are probably only a few fringe elements left in American society who would argue in public that there is something wrong or immoral or unacceptable about being black or Jewish or a woman. But there are people who believe that homosexuality is immoral. And there are also



Chuck Hornberger, left, and his partner, Ted Gaiser, in Allston, Mass. in 1990.

those persuaded by some of the demands of gay-rights advocates — for recognition of homosexual marriage, for example, or the teaching of homosexuality in elementary schools — that homosexuals are looking for social approval, not just social tolerance. Even when the issue is limited to equal access to housing and employment, as it was in Colorado, should those who see homosexuality as sinful be forced into non-discrimination in the same way that white segregationists were

nate against, say, Jews in housing, why should you be able to discriminate against homosexuals?

"If you equate homosexuality with religion, you are making a very strong endorsement of homosexual behavior," Mr. Carvin said. But civil rights, he argues, are almost by definition special rights. We accord them to certain groups — minorities, women — but that does not mean that society has a responsibility, or even the legal authority, to apply them to all groups.

"For government to mandate the basis by which your employer or landlord makes decisions about you is a very special right, which we do not give to every group in the country," Mr. Carvin said. "We don't give it to smokers or adulterers, for example, particularly when civil rights laws deal not only with discrimination but with behavior that is offensive to some people."

"There is," Mr. Carvin said, "no constitutional requirement for local government to intervene on behalf of one segment of a community in a way that offends the moral values of another segment of the community. The advocates of these laws are trying to wrap their own personal policy choices in some wholly invalid constitutional clothing."

Unconvinced

Clearly, the Colorado courts and others have not been convinced by this reasoning. They have, in essence, been maintaining that homosexuals should simply not be treated any less favorably than other people. "Does that constitute approval?" Mr. Gewirtz asked. "There is no doubt that it places the government behind the proposition that it is unfair to treat gays worse than other people. But it's certainly not approval in the sense that society is saying, 'We like people to be gay,' or, 'We're going to spend some of our money to support and encourage homosexuality.'"

Gay men and lesbians want basic protections. But laws alone can't undo a taboo.

once compelled to accept equal rights for black people? The courts seem to be deciding this question affirmatively, but the polls, and the voting patterns, indicate popular resistance.

"What the gays are asking here is a government seal of approval on this life style," said Michael Carvin, a Washington lawyer who is appealing a court decision in Cincinnati that, like the Colorado decision, struck down an anti-gay referendum. He argued that "you can't equate race and sexual orientation, because that identifies someone who takes account of sexual orientation with racial bigotry," rather than belief.

Certainly, homosexuality and race are different kinds of issues, but what about religion? Religion is, among other things, a system of belief, but it could be argued that it is comparable to sexual orientation in that it, too, involves a behavior. If you cannot discrimi-

Washington Is So in Touch

Continued from page 1

example, a popular proposal to regulate lobbyists that was stopped dead last month by a talk-radio campaign. Heartfelt or dashed off in pique, a voter-missive is something a politician ignores at his peril.

"Anything you do — or conversely, anything you don't do — can and will be held against you in a campaign," Mr. Kopetski says.

It is easy to forget how rapidly Washington has become wired to its fickle public, and how profound a change this has occasioned. The early 1970's provide a comparison point — a time when cable television reached only into the sticks, AM radio played music, campaign contributions were secret and unlimited, and government-in-the-sunshine laws were but a gleam in reformers' eyes.

The 1970 Clean Air Act — by any standard, one of the landmark bills of the last 50 years, and a radical step for its time — occupied a mere 47 pages in the United States Code. It was passed with virtually unanimous support in both houses of Congress. Its 1990 renewal took nearly five years to assemble and pass over bitter opposition, and consumed more than 200 fine-print pages in the Congressional Record.

Much has changed in the interim, of course, includ-

The 1970 Clean Air Act was smooth, easy and important. It was mostly hashed out in secret, too.

ing the size of the regulatory bureaucracy and the breadth of knowledge about pollution. But Leon Billings, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates who was then an aide to the act's chief sponsor, Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine, says the spare 1970 law was enacted with such comity for at least three reasons:

¶With only spotty television coverage, members could debate and develop positions free of pressure to make instant pronouncements.

¶With only a few lobbyists in sight — one Senator, Mr. Billings recalled, considered his state's garden clubs the best organized voice on the bill — they could stick to the big picture.

¶And with closed doors obscuring their deal-making, the lawmakers had the one thing they needed to patch together a compromise: political cover.

"The biggest mistake Muskie ever made was to sponsor the sunshine laws," Mr. Billings said. "Now they're still making decisions in secret before the open hearings. So you have all the negatives of backroom deals with none of the positives of closed meetings, with their opportunity to express your true feelings. It's destroyed consensus, and the Senate, especially, doesn't work without consensus."

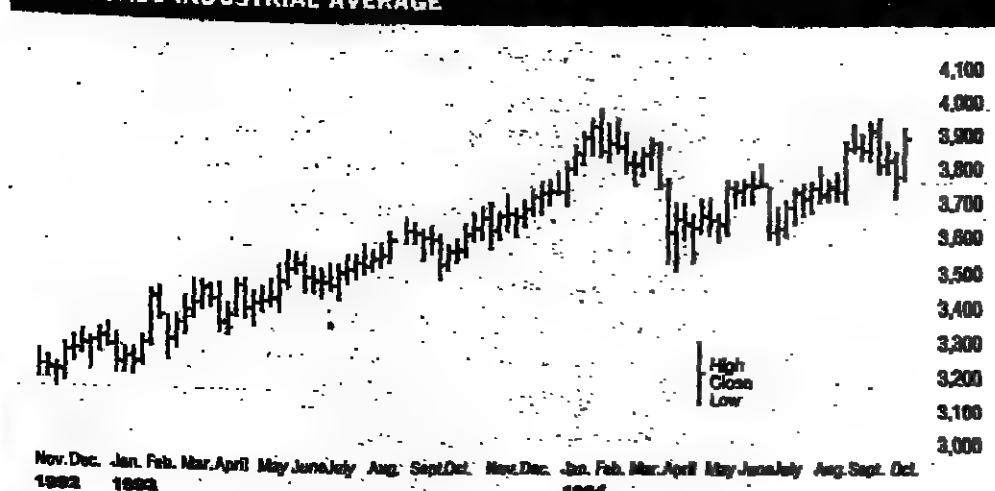
The founders envisioned a system of checks and balances, where a President proposed and Congress disposed, where the lower chamber played to the crowd and the upper chamber tempered its passions. In the new world, where everyone proposes and plays to the crowd, and where ruler and ruled possess complete and terrible knowledge of each other, leaders are afraid to satisfy a few and anger the rest. It is a recipe for perpetual and mean politics, and a cynical electorate. This is the curse of modern government: its leaders are always running, and they have nowhere to hide.

have not changed much. Skeptical Gazans say they still face the same hardships, with

security. But the Israelis say there can't be elections until he delivers security first."

The Stock Markets Last Week

DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE



MARKET INDEXES

	Close	Chg	%Chg	YTD %
D. J. Ind.	3,910.47	+113.04	+2.98	+4.17
D. J. Transp.	1,496.48	+51.69	+3.52	+15.08
D. J. Util.	182.64	+4.22	+2.37	+20.25
S&P 500	469.10	+14.00	+3.08	+0.67
S&P Ind.	556.86	+17.31	+3.21	+3.09
NYSE Comp.	257.99	+6.66	+2.65	+0.42
Nasdaq	767.08	+17.12	+2.28	+1.25
Amex	458.50	+3.38	+0.74	+3.91
Russell 2000	254.87	+4.16	+1.66	+1.44
Wilshire 5000	4,644.73	+118.26	+2.61	+0.28
Value Line	288.31	+5.42	+1.92	+2.36

INTEREST RATES

	30-Year Bonds	Municipal Bonds	Three-Month Treasury Bills
Yield	7.83	6.45	5.98
Yield	7.83	6.45	5.98
Yield	7.83	6.45	5.98

MARKET DIARY

	NYSE	NASDAQ	AMEX
Advanced	1,783	2,473	404
Declined	872	1,977	417
Unchanged	363	906	166
Issues Traded	3,018	5,356	987
New High	136	267	31
New Low	244	139	89

New York Stock Exchange

MOST ACTIVE				PERCENTAGE GAINERS				PERCENTAGE LOSERS			
Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.
FordM	191593	29 1/2	+2 1/4	Chau	5 1/2	+1 1/4	28.1	Nav pID	4 1/4	-1 3/4	29.2
NMeds	169941	15 1/4	+1 1/4	Inflect	2 1/4	+4 1/4	24.7	Farah	6 1/4	-1 1/4	24.7
Compq	140764	35 1/2	+1 1/4	NhwEq	16 1/2	+3 1/4	24.5	SeaCt pID	57 1/2	-18	23.8
AdmMD	130283	23 1/4	+1 1/4	RepOp	9 1/4	+1 1/4	21.7	UOChn pID	9 1/4	-2 1/4	19.2
MicTch	129856	34 1/4	+1 1/4	Munung	8 1/4	+1 1/4	18.5	Amerco pID	17 1/4	-3 1/4	16.0
Motoris	123587	54	+3 1/4	RobtH	22 1/2	+3 1/4	18.4	DeltaW	9 1/4	-1 1/4	13.1
Merck	122484	36 1/4	+2	ClairSt	12 1/2	+1 1/4	18.3	Bausch	33 1/2	-5	12.9
IBM	122151	73 1/4	+2	BoitBer	18 1/4	+2 1/4	17.5	Integon	15 1/4	-2 1/4	12.6
Digital	119821	28 1/2	+2 1/4	Chm Mtg	9 1/4	+1 1/4	17.5	GSU pID	53	-7	12.5
TelMex	116671	63 1/4	+3 1/4	Niland	13 1/2	+2	17.4	Cooker	7	-1	12.5
GNI	116437	17 1/4	+3 1/4	EurWf	10 1/4	+1 1/4	17.1	VulHth	40 1/4	-5 1/4	11.3
GenEl	116212	50 1/4	+3 1/4	Nokle pf	65 1/4	+9 1/4	16.7	Coast pID	102	-12 1/4	10.7
EMC	112257	21 1/4	+1 1/4	GranT	28 1/4	+4	16.2	Mesa	4 1/4	-1 1/4	9.8
WalM	109526	24 1/4	+1 1/4	Chse wt	6 1/4	+7 1/4	15.9	GUANT	9 1/4	-1	9.5
Chrysr	106297	46 1/4	+2	FMes	22 1/4	+2 1/4	14.5	Norok	10 1/4	-1 1/4	9.4

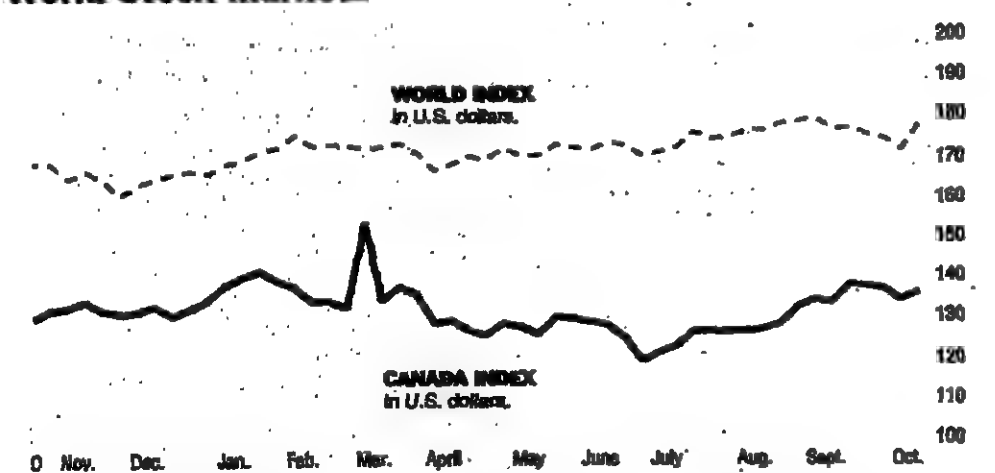
Nasdaq

MOST ACTIVE				PERCENTAGE GAINERS				PERCENTAGE LOSERS			
Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.
Novell	329243	16	+1 1/4	Metallurg	7 1/4	+7 1/4	487.5	LifeCst	4 1/4	-3 1/4	48.4
AppleC	27590	41 1/4	+4 1/4	CompTel A	7	+2 1/4	64.7	NatSt s	6 1/4	-3 1/4	36.7
Intel	236845	58 1/2	+3 1/4	Intit un	67 1/4	+25 1/4	60.4	LevelOne s	17 1/4	-9 1/4	35.5
Cisco	224937	27 1/4	+1 1/4	Neon s	64 1/4	+2 1/4	57.8	ArtRep pf	5	-2 1/4	33.3
Micrft	178743	55 1/4	+1 1/4	PMR	5	+2 1/4	54.8	AvEn pf	4 1/4	-1 1/4	23.3
TelCm A	163505	23 1/4	+2 1/4	Zeo	5	+1 1/4	48.2	EnxRs	10	-2 1/4	20.4
Wellf	154586	22 1/4	+1 1/4	GmMount	7	+2 1/4	47.4	JohnArn	20 1/2	-5 1/4	20.4
SunM	151665	32 1/4	+1 1/4	Tekelec	17 1/4	+3 1/4	44.9	E&B Mer	5	-1 1/4	20.0
Altra	126596	34 1/4	+6 1/4	Caere	14 1/4	+4	39.5	Banotac	19 1/4	-4 1/4	19.4
Sybas	125160	49 1/4	+3 1/4	ZollMed	12 1/4	+3 1/4	38.9	ExcelT pf	5 1/4	-1 1/4	18.9

American Stock Exchange

MOST ACTIVE				PERCENTAGE GAINERS				PERCENTAGE LOSERS			
Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.	Pct.
ViccomVer	187149	13 1/4	+3 1/4	SFM	45 1/4	+13 1/4	43.3	BetaW s	1 1/4	-4	69.6
ViccomB	68370	39 1/4	+1 1/4	GnEmp	8 1/4	+2 1/4	40.8	3 S Sys	35 1/2	-11 1/4	24.9
XCL	38530	1 1/4	+1 1/4	CoDta	8	+2 1/4	36.2	Svrdofds n	4 1/4	-1	15.0
EchoB	25712	13	+3 1/4	OhArt	35	+8	29.5	HovEn	6 1/4	-1	13.1
SPOR	24747	47 1/4	+1 1/4	USAlc pID	24 1/4	+5 1/4	27.6	KelyOG	5 1/4	-1 1/4	10.4

World Stock Markets



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the FT Actuarial World Index, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Index is compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Ltd. in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries.

Country	PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS				PERFORMANCE IN LOCAL CURRENCY			
	Index	Week % Chg.	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.	Index	Week % Chg.	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.
Australia	188.19	1.7	21	0.8	18	3.85	152.05	-7.0
Austria	184.45	2.3	19	-0.3	19	1.10	145.74	-12.5
Belgium	189.42	4.6	9	4.2	13	4.21	130.86	-8.8
Britain	201.18	3.7	14	-1.9	20	4.06	187.29	-8.9
Canada	137.48	0.7	24	1.2	10	2.49	134.64	3.4
Denmark	253.48	4.1	13	2.5	15	1.44	205.52	-10.0
Finland	192.88	9.0	1	56.8	1	0.74	190.42	27.2
France	171.89	4.9	6	-2.4	21	3.09	140.31	-13.9
Germany	146.26	8.2	2	4.3	12	1.79	115.59	-8.7
Hong Kong	387.76	1.7	20	-20.8	24	3.19	384.70	-20.8
Ireland	211.74	5.2	5	14.3	7	3.38	189.18	2.2
Italy	78.81	1.4	23	14.9	6	1.89	91.24	4.0
Japan	162.48	2.8	17	24.9	2	0.76	100.85	10.0
Malaysia	562.92	1.6	22	-4.8	23	1.51	555.39	-9.5
Mexico	2287.50	4.5	11	-4.2	22	1.20	8542.26	5.3
Netherlands	217.78	4.8	7	9.4	8	3.41	169.25	-4.1
New Zealand	73.04	4.3	12	-7.6	9	3.80	63.94	-0.8
Norway	208.81	7.1	3	16.2	5	1.76	187.85	2.4
Singapore	394.76	3.2	15	7.4	10	1.57	268.80	-1.4
South Africa	321.83	2.5	18	20.5	3	2.23	288.05	15.0
Spain	143.73	4.8	8	3.1	14	4.03	187.61	-6.8
Sweden	234.57	6.6	4	18.5	4	1.58	253.99	-4.8
Switzerland	168.32	4.5	10	5.1	11	1.84	131.85	-10.8
United States	191.41	3.0	16	0.8	17	2.83	191.41	0.8

COMPOSITE INDEXES

	Index	Week % Chg.	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.
Europe	174.15	4.7	2.7	3.05
Europe/Pacific	172.89	3.5	11.3	1.92
World	179.14	3.3	7.1	2.25

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.
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The Economy

Today's Artists Unite, and Hollywood May Never Be the Same

In 1919, Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and D. W. Griffith had a Hollywood-shaking idea — get together some people who know movies and let them run the show. United Artists was born. Since those glory days, though, corporations and committees and accountants have taken over — and their movies, alas, often look the part. But last week a grand cycle came round again as three men who indisputably know movies now — Steven Spielberg, Jeffrey Katzenberg and David Geffen — joined forces to create a studio. The rest of Hollywood may soon look as if a “Jurassic Park” dinosaur had tromped through. Mr. Spielberg will stop making films for Universal, Mr. Katzenberg will probably raid the animation talent at Disney, his former home, Mr. Geffen will bring his production unit. And all that talent will flow to the new studio.



Three of these men just had a bright idea. The fourth had a similar one in 1919.

Toys Don't Kill? Think Again

Kids love toy guns; parents hate them. So guess who usually wins out: Toy guns were a \$246 million business in this country last year. But parents' vague unease has turned to tangible fear lately, as one New York boy, then another, was shot by a police officer who mistook a toy gun for the real thing. Toys 'R' Us heard those shots loud and clear, and last week it said it would stop selling “realistic” toy guns; others, like Kay-Bee Toys, quickly followed suit. Toys 'R' Us had banished toy guns before, but later started selling guns in bright colors — to mark them as fake. But kids started painting them to look real, so the issue exploded again.

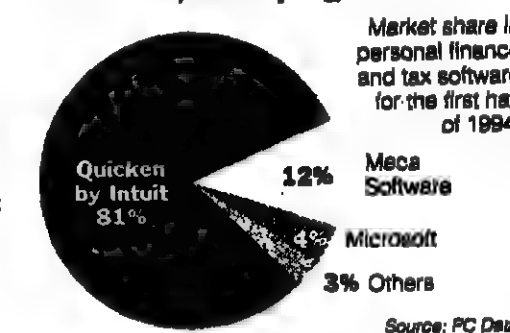
What Now for Mexican Labor?



Damian Dougan/Associated Press for The New York Times

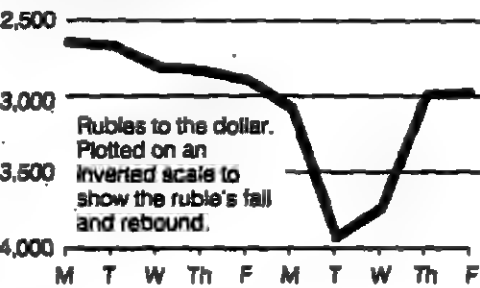
So now that NAFTA has been around a while, what's in store for workers at American-owned plants in Mexico? An answer may be taking shape. With Mexican factory workers lucky to get \$16 a day — about what Americans get an hour — American unions have been trying to address that disparity. But there have been charges that companies like Honeywell and General Electric have fired union sympathizers, so the unions turned to Labor Secretary Robert Reich to ride to the rescue. But last week Mr. Reich refused to pursue the complaints. And union organizers and companies alike were watching it all very closely.

Microsoft, On Top Again



Microsoft clearly intends to be master of everything it touches, and if it can't build what it needs, it won't hesitate to buy it. Its own personal-finance software has managed only 4 percent of the market. But Bill Gates probably can't even see numbers that small, so last week, he had Microsoft issue \$1.5 billion in stock — in the largest software acquisition ever — to buy Intuit, whose Quicken software owns the market. So if more people take to writing checks and paying bills electronically, Microsoft could just dip in with a tiny transaction fee, then gather those golden crumbs into quite a rich cake indeed.

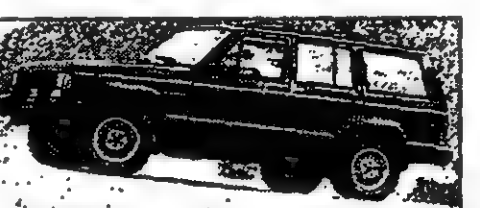
A Weak Link: The Ruble



Russia's on a tightrope. It has to get its economy moving, but if it tries to do so by overvaluing the ruble, the resulting inflation will be as destructive as anything else. Last week it took quite a jolt on that tightrope, as currency markets suddenly had big doubts and sent the ruble plummeting by 25 percent against the dollar — its biggest single drop ever. Russia had made big strides in tamping inflation, but this could well send it back to the drawing board. Boris Yeltsin started talking about conspiracies, and heads rolled — Mr. Yeltsin fired the acting Finance Minister. But it was really just the market, and speculators, at work. The central bank managed to get the ruble to bounce back the next day, but that by no means meant the crisis was over. That was clear on Friday when the head of the central bank resigned.

A Novel Cash-Flow Problem

Every company should have such problems. Chrysler — yes, the one that almost went under — has been making so much money it's running out of mattresses to stuff it in. With buyers clamoring for its cars and Cherokees, its earnings reports are getting boring — another quarter, another record. And again last week: \$1.66 billion in revenues, \$651 million in profits, both records. So, what to do with it? The company even has all it needs in its pension funds — the first time since 1957. It could raise the dividend, it could buy back some stock. But it also hasn't forgotten how wet the rainy days can be.



World Markets/Clyde Farnsworth

Quebec Traders Unfazed by Separatism

FIVE weeks ago, Quebec voters elected a new government that wants to pull the province out of Canada. Such a development would normally rattle investors worried about risks in an uncertain political environment. Yet stocks on the Montreal exchange have since approached their highest levels for the year, the Canadian dollar has strengthened, and most Montreal stock traders are bullish.

“There has been little impact,” said Dominique Drouhy, president of Investissements Drouhy Inc., a Montreal investment house. “The dog barked, but didn't bite.” Analysts cite two main reasons. The first is that while the separatist Parti Québécois won a majority of seats in the Quebec National Assembly, it got only 45 percent of the popular vote. That means it faces an uphill fight convincing a majority of Quebecers to vote for independence in a referendum promised for next year. The second reason is that the fundamentals for Quebec — indeed for all of Canada — look relatively good. An economy based on plentiful natural resources is likely to benefit from the projected global economic expansion. Inflation and wage increases are the lowest in the Group of Seven industrial countries, while growth in industrial production is the strongest.

“Over the next few months, Quebec stocks will be earnings-driven, and the earnings should be positive,” says Clément Gignac, chief economist and portfolio strategist for Levesque Beaudin Geoffroy Inc., another Montreal investment firm. There are plenty of concerns on the horizon, not least Quebec's and Canada's mountains of debt and the possibility that a majority of Quebecers could end up saying “yes” to independence in the coming referendum. Gordon Thiessen, a governor of the Bank of Canada, notes that the impact of the coming vote on markets is “completely intertwined with debt levels.” Yet stock traders tend to focus more on

the short term. “For now the issue is not forgotten, but put aside because the risk seems far less,” said Gilles Auclair, institutional trader in Montreal for Maison Placements Canada Inc. Freed at least temporarily from concerns specific to Quebec, the Montreal market is taking its bullish cue from the markets in Toronto and New York.

Montreal stocks as measured by their Dow Jones equivalent, the 25-share Portfolio Index, are up more than 10 percent from their lows set last June 28. The Canadian dollar, which is even more sensitive to political events than the stock market, has recovered over the same period from around 72 cents to current levels above 74 cents.

Of the 579 companies on the Montreal Stock Exchange, 373 are also listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange and 28 on the New York Stock Exchange. Yet another stock hit New York later this month when the Bank of Montreal becomes the first Canadian bank quoted on the Big Board.

Once Canada's premier financial center, Montreal today is junior to Toronto, which handles 83 percent of Canadian stock transactions by value, compared with Montreal's 12 percent. Vancouver, Alberta and Winni-

Currency

	Last Week	Prior Week	Year Ago
Japanese Yen per Dollar	98.20	100.65	107.07
German Mark per Dollar	1.5200	1.5485	1.6171
Canadian Dollar per U.S. Dollar	1.3547	1.3470	1.3309
British Pound per U.S. Dollar	1.5940	1.5865	1.5208
Gold	\$387.40	\$391.00	\$364.75

Source: Reuters, NY Close

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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President Aristide Returns

For the overwhelming majority of Haitians, the return of Jean-Bertrand Aristide is a joyous occasion. For a small but important minority, particularly among the economic and military elite, it is a nightmare come true.

For President Clinton, it is a foreign policy victory but by no means an undiluted one. It took three years, many policy reversals and finally a dubious use of U.S. military force to get to this point. The road ahead could be even more militarily treacherous and politically complicated than the recent past.

These cautions take nothing away from President Aristide. He won Haiti's first and only democratic election overwhelmingly. Though he then needlessly antagonized political allies and spoke in ways that seemed to countenance mob violence, his seven-month tenure was marked by fewer human rights violations and fewer deaths than any comparable period in modern Haitian history. After the military ousted him in a September 1991 coup, Father Aristide's supporters never deserted him; they suffered for him and kept dreaming of his return. Now he calls for reconciliation, justice and an end to bloodshed.

But the very novelty of Haitian democracy means there are no institutions to carry out orderly change and to reassure members of the old elite that their rights and even their lives will not be sacrificed. No court system worthy of the name exists. The only forces of order Haiti ever knew were partisan defenders of the old regime. Now that these have been broken by American power, only

unreliable recruits of dubious loyalties are available to replace them. The Clinton Administration must steel itself against any temptation to move into this vacuum. U.S. troops must try to limit their involvement in police activities while an interim U.N. peacekeeping force is recruited and trained.

That will be harder than ever now that Lieut. Gen. Raoul Cédras and his cronies have finally gone and President Aristide has physically returned. Even if Father Aristide heeds U.S. pleas to put aside his radical electoral mandate, his supporters have high expectations and may be tempted to take matters into their own hands.

So may his enemies. If property owners recruit armed men to defend their estates from vigilante seizure, should U.S. troops try to disarm these private defenders? If so, should the Americans protect these threatened estates themselves, using deadly force if necessary? Anything Washington does or does not do under such circumstances would have serious repercussions both in Haiti and at home. The best thing the Clinton Administration can do is to keep the U.S. military mission limited and brief.

The U.S. has a human interest in helping Haitians out of their pain and misery. So long as the new Government lives up to its promises of democracy, reconciliation and human rights, Washington should be generous with aid and technical support. But with an elected Government now in charge and no real national security interests at stake, the U.S. military occupation of Haiti, never a good idea to begin with, must be wound up as soon as possible.

Germany Will Survive Its Confusion

Judged a likely loser last year, then viewed as a certain winner only six months ago, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany heads into his most confusing and least predictable election today. His problem is not with his Christian Democratic Party, which is leading in the polls. His problem rather is the possible collapse of his indispensable junior coalition partner, the Free Democrats, whose votes have assured Mr. Kohl's parliamentary majority since he first became Chancellor in 1982.

Fortunately there are enough brakes in Germany's federal Constitution so that a lurch toward real instability seems highly unlikely. Americans can watch with interest, not alarm, as 60 million Germans choose a government in a newly unified country now pulling out of economic doldrums.

Under Germany's complicated electoral system, the balance could be tipped if the Free Democrats fail to meet the 5 percent threshold required for parliamentary seats. But what makes the vote a real sweepstakes is that each voter, who first casts a vote for the party of his choice, casts a second ballot to elect an individual local representative. If a minor party does well in these local contests, it gets a windfall bonus that, depending on its share of the national vote, could greatly increase its representation.

Thus, in a peculiar twist, the free-market and libertarian Free Democrats could lose out, while the authoritarian East German Communists, now calling themselves the Party of Democratic Social-

ism, could bounce back. Discontent is highest in eastern Germany, where jobless rates are painfully high, giving the party a solid local base among the aggrieved. East Germany may be gone, but its old ruling party is emphatically not forgotten.

This resurgence is a major headache for the opposition Social Democratic Party and its low-key new leader, Rudolf Scharping. With the Free Democrats out, the party might just be able to cobble together a parliamentary majority in partnership with the leftist environmental Greens. But he has been rattled by Chancellor Kohl's charge that the Social Democrats might also depend on the support of former Communists, whose ideology is anathema to many veteran Social Democrats in western Germany.

If no coalition with a minority party is possible, the remaining way out for the two big parties is to form a "grand coalition," dividing the Cabinet seats between them. It would not be a happy outcome. Germany's last grand coalition, in the late 1960's, saw a surge in support for extreme right-wing parties, which filled the void left by a true opposition party.

However, should Germany again experiment with a partnership between Mr. Kohl and Mr. Scharping, Europe will not totter nor the mark collapse. Germany's far-right party, the Republicans, seems unlikely to get any parliamentary seats. It is the perplexities of democracy, not its survival, that are at issue in today's vote.

Topics of The Times

Yesterday's World of Tomorrow

Visitors to the 1939 New York World's Fair lined up for hours to see the General Motors "Futurama," one of the fair's star attractions. Inside, they cruised on moving chairs for one-third of a mile around a detailed diorama of what the urban-suburban-rural landscape might be in 1960, as it seemed in those hopeful post-Depression days before World War II.

Among the futuristic concepts fairgoers saw there, and doubted they would ever see in the real world, was an automated highway. Model cars scooted along on a fixed path at a governed speed under external controls, freeing drivers to scan the sky, play cards or whatever.

So who just got a \$200 million Federal contract to develop a prototype for an automated highway? A consortium headed by none other than General Motors.

The idea, then and now, is greater safety and efficiency. The Department of Transportation, which awarded the contract, estimates automated lanes can handle at least twice as many vehicles as lanes with drivers driving; automatic control eliminates constant speeding up and slowing down, weaving in and out, the accretion effect, accidents and rubber-necking.

The new system would not be an entire highway, but a dedicated lane alongside regular lanes, accessible to cars, trucks and buses equipped with computerized sensors. The consortium's task is to design a system that works. Possibilities include a TV camera to control steering by scanning the painted lines on the road, while a laser controls the speed by measuring the distance to the car ahead. The designers are also looking for a device to determine whether the driver is awake, or even still alive, when it is time to resume manual control and leave the highway.

The test run is set for 1997 — just 58 years and a zillion traffic jams after the "Futurama" suggested it.

Goodbye, Cruel Shoes?

Imagine a woman's foot folded downward and in half, slowly crushed over a period of years until toe and heel nearly meet, then placed in a dainty silken coverlet and described as a "lily." This was foot-binding and the "lily foot" was widely prized in China between the 11th century and this one.

Foot-binding passed, but the principle of mutilating to "beautify" remained integral to women's footwear.

Exhibit A: the high heel. Cruel in its own right, the spike endangers nearly every part of the body, from toes to ankles to pelvis to back. Like its Chinese counterpart, the spike's implicit message was that women's legs and feet were esthetic objects only, unlikely ever to be used for serious walking or running. In the 1970's women began wearing sneakers on the way to work, submitting to the torture of heels only at the office.

New York's Soho, Greenwich Village and East Village have always been harbinger of fashions to come. And it was with the history of shoes in mind that a journalist has been touring these precincts, taking note of what fashionable young women are wearing.

On one recent business morning, the writer covered a considerable stretch of the Village without seeing a single pair of high heels. Fashionable young women, even those in subway ads, were wearing boots. Motorcycle boots. Hiking boots. Waffle-soled work boots. Square toes, rectangular toes, round toes. Boots with acres of room. Nary a lily foot in sight.

Perfectly Pianissimo

The sound of a well-played piano is beautiful, unless it is 3 A.M. and the unwilling listener is trying to sleep. A poorly played piano is something else — an earnest 8-year-old struggling through Czerny exercises or a boisterous 10-year-old banging out "Chopsticks."

Comes now a silent piano from the creative electronic wizardry of Japan — a noiseless upright by Yamaha, which bills itself as the world's largest producer of musical instruments. To all appearances, it is a normal piano with 88 keys, and it can be played that way. But depress a foot pedal and it goes soundless. The pianist hears the notes through earphones. A teacher can plug in at the same time. The father snoozing nearby in his armchair sleeps on, undisturbed.

When the player hits a key with the pedal down, the hammer for that key will not strike a string; an optical sensor reads the movement of the hammer and transmits the note to the earphones from a digital recording of notes played on a concert grand. Thus, the sound is not the upright's, but the notes are whatever the pianist plays; a wrong note on the keyboard comes through as a wrong note in the earphones.

The suggested price for this splendid machine is \$8,000-plus. As a contribution to peace and quiet it is priceless.

Why Hiroshima Still Haunts America's Psyche

To the Editor:

The controversy over the Smithsonian Institution's atomic bomb exhibition will not subside any time soon, on the evidence of "The Curators Cave In" (Op-Ed, Oct. 9) and your Oct. 11 letters. The dispute exposes the raw nerve that is Hiroshima in America. Nearly half a century after the fact, Americans still experience pain, confusion and anger over the use of the bomb against Japan.

It has never been easy to reconcile dropping the bomb with a sense of ourselves as a decent people. This conflict remains unresolved, so it continues to provoke strong feelings.

A leading political analyst recently charged that the curators of the Smithsonian exhibition "hate their country" and should be fired. Instead of viewing any reassessment as a threat to America's self-image, we should use the 50-year commemoration to come to terms finally with Hiroshima in all its meaning.

What is remarkable is that the terms of the debate have changed little since August 1945. Why is it so difficult to find — in criticism of the Smithsonian by veterans groups, in letters of protest from members of Congress and in the many newspaper editorials denouncing the exhibition — any recognition of questions raised by historical evidence that has emerged since the 1940's?

That there was no alternative to dropping atomic bombs on two Japanese cities to end World War II is taken as an article of faith. Those who present arguments to the contrary are often denounced as "revisionists" or accused of "revising history" — as if history were static, and new facts and interpretations must be wrong, even unpatriotic.

One member of Congress said of Smithsonian officials: "Their job is to tell history, not rewrite it." What history? Whose version of history?

The Smithsonian controversy reflects that the decision to use the bomb, and its human costs, have never received a complete, impartial examination. This is partly because of misleading official explanations and Government secrecy. But the most significant reason is our personal disinclination.

After years of avoiding the subject — a collective form of psychic numbing — any reopening of this scar makes us feel uneasy. We are sensi-

tive to any questioning of the official version of Hiroshima that has been passed on from generation to generation. Criticism of the decision to use the bomb tarnishes our view of America's legacy. And so the questions continue to haunt us.

Veterans of the Pacific war rightly take pride in the heroism of our soldiers in their successful drive to defeat the Axis powers. It is understandable that they wish to uphold the goodness of their mission — and it was good, up to the use of a revolutionary new weapon, which killed tens of thousands of civilians and changed the world forever.

Any re-examination leading up to the commemorations next summer — especially one in a museum devoted to national memory — should include all of this: the Pacific war, the decision to use two atomic bombs and the bombs' effects. It needs to draw on all available information and be open to fresh analysis.

We must bear witness to what has happened in America as a result of

would have only saved some 46,000 American lives, instead of the one million asserted by Secretary of War Henry Stimson in 1946.

As a B-25 pilot who after 51 combat missions in Europe was being reassigned to the Pacific Theater, I might have been among those 46,000. I would count my demise a most disagreeable turn of events.

Is Mr. Bird suggesting that we should have sacrificed those thousands of Americans to save thousands of Japanese, who were then our certain and deadly enemy? If so, may I ask if Mr. Bird might have been among the American dead; and if not, then he is at one with Horace Walpole, whose ardor for revolution rapidly decreased the nearer it got to him.

JACK VALENTI
Washington, Oct. 10, 1994

Casualties of Invasion

To the Editor:

Kai Bird (Op-Ed, Oct. 9) and William Craig (letter, Oct. 11) dispute the number of American casualties that would have been sustained in an invasion of Japan. I think Mr. Craig has the right side of that argument, that American losses would have been very heavy.

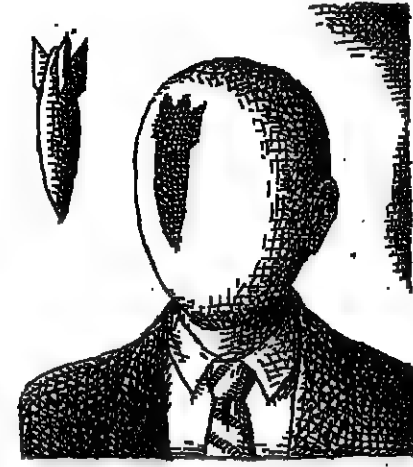
The historian John Keegan cites a June 18, 1945, meeting between Adm. William Leahy and President Truman where 268,000 Americans killed and wounded were expected in the planned invasion of Kyushu, scheduled for autumn 1945.

However, neither Mr. Bird nor Mr. Craig has considered the potential Japanese deaths. At Okinawa, where some 7,000 Americans were killed, 110,000 Japanese soldiers died. Worse, perhaps 150,000 Okinawan civilians perished, caught in between.

Mr. Bird has confused the Pacific economic warriors of today's Japan with the fierce fighters who were their grandparents. Japanese civilians were ready to die too; in the invasion of Saipan, men, women and children jumped from high cliffs into the sea to avoid American capture.

In Japan, young girls were training with pointed sticks. Japanese deaths alone, in an invasion of the home islands, would likely have surpassed by hundreds of thousands the fatalities in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

MARK KEITH BENENSON
New York, Oct. 11, 1994



Hiroshima, both the bomb's presence in the world and our having used it.
ROBERT JAY LIFTON
GREG MITCHELL
New York, Oct. 11, 1994

The writers are completing a book on American post-World War II attitudes to the atomic bombing of Japan.

Lives Worth Saving

To the Editor:

Kai Bird (Op-Ed, Oct. 9) deplores the dropping of the atom bomb on Japan. His prime argument is that it

Few Chileans Regard Pinochet as a Hero

To the Editor:

Your Oct. 6 news article on the ability of Gen. Augusto Pinochet of Chile to cling to power might give a false impression of his popularity.

I was on vacation in Chile for what happened to be the 21st anniversary of the general's infamous coup against the democratically elected Government of Salvador Allende in 1973. While it's true several thousand people (mostly military families) showed up at the military academy to celebrate the coup's anniversary, the sentiment of the rest of the populace was anything but hero worship.

The country was riveted that week by daily student demonstrations all over the country against General Pinochet. And on Sept. 11, the day of the anniversary, I witnessed a turnout of Chileans estimated at 20,000 (10 times as many as showed up at the military academy) march to the grave of Allende and to a monument for the thousands of victims of tor-

ture and murder under General Pinochet's 18-year rule as president.

The first few pages of Chile's major newspapers were given to covering the march to the cemetery, while the military academy gathering was buried in the back pages.

I spoke to dozens of ordinary Chileans, and it was hard to find anyone with anything positive to say about General Pinochet. The general's ability to remain as army commander seems not a result of popularity but perhaps attributable to the military's loyalty and to his ability to crush a government whose policies he disagrees with.

In this age in which human rights criminals are becoming less tolerated throughout the world, the presence of one of the 20th century's worst human rights abusers in a position of power appears to be a source of frustration to the majority of Chileans.

JOE RUBIN
Newton, Mass., Oct. 10, 1994

Income Can't Replace Time With Children

To the Editor:

Re "Men Whose Wives Work Earn Less, Studies Show" (front page, Oct. 12): I have news for the investment manager who feels free to work longer hours now that his wife has left her job to stay home with their children. His children are not getting enough "parent time" from him, something extra income cannot compensate for. Families gain when parents share parenting and financial responsibilities.

LIZ BLOCK
El Cerrito, Calif., Oct. 12, 1994
The writer is an educational psychologist.

North's Commander

To the Editor:

Re "North Draws Fire for Comments on Clinton Military Policy" (news article, Oct. 11): When Oliver L. North, Republican candidate for the United States Senate from Virginia, said "Bill Clinton is not my Commander in Chief" and then explained that he only meant he is no longer a Marine officer on active duty and so did not report to the President, he once again ignored the truth. As a retired Marine officer, he is on individual ready reserve status, and as such he is under the command of the President of the United States.

DAVID ROCKWELL
New York, Oct. 11, 1994

Vaunted Signs of Economic Recovery Aren't Real to a Lot of Us

To the Editor:

"Economic indicators" come out once a month. They give pertinent facts about the economy. The latest indicators show total United States output to be up, unemployment claims down, industrial production up and business sales up. At first glance, this is very salutary.

But the economic indicators are prepared by the President's Council of Economic Advisers, whose chairwoman, Laura D'Andrea Tyson, was appointed by President Clinton. Ms. Tyson appears frequently on national television and obviously strives to present Administration economic policies in the best possible light.

Regarding the recent drop in unemployment claims, it has been established (from previous administrations) that in hard times, many of

the unemployed become discouraged, drop out of the labor force and stop going to state unemployment offices to make claims.

President Clinton has repeatedly said that under his Administration's economic policies more than six million new jobs have been created. What he omits to say is that they are mostly minimum-wage jobs. But the layoffs, called "downsizing" which continue at I.B.M., General Motors

and other corporations, are affecting mostly the highest salaried employees. This is to achieve the goal of cutting costs, and thereby increasing profits.

The recession has been going on for more than six years. But the Council of Economic Advisers steadfastly maintains that we are in the "recovery stage." Before this one, the longest post-World War II recession mercifully lasted for only 18 months.

BEVERLY KIRCHING
Springfield, Ill., Oct. 10, 1994
The writer retired as professor of economics, City Colleges of Chicago.

What to Think?

To the Editor:

What a world we live in! If the indexes point to a strong economy, the stock and bond markets decline. If a weak economy is predicted, the markets surge. Should millions of stockholders secretly hope for a recession? And what to think if you're part of the work force that's laid off — that the rest of the country will be tickled pink?

EDWARD SILVER
New York, Oct. 9, 1994

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The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. We regret that we cannot acknowledge or return unpublished letters. Those published may be shortened for space reasons.

In America

BOB HERBERT

Want a New Face In Albany?

The weariness of New York voters with Mario Cuomo is palpable. We know him and his idiosyncrasies too well. He has begun to seem like a pontificating brother-in-law who has remained on the premises too long. There is a longing to show him the door, to enjoy the peace of his absence.

After shaking hands with Mr. Cuomo at the New York Sheraton Hotel last week, a woman named Muriel Hedges said, "I was married 10 years, had two kids, and now I'm divorced — and he's still Governor!"

It has been a very long time. When Mr. Cuomo became Governor in January 1983 we had not yet felt the scourge of crack, did not yet understand the true horror of AIDS, and had not yet been clobbered into social and political incoherence by the anti-urban, anti-poor policies of the Reagan and Bush Administrations.

(On May 9, 1983, four months after Mr. Cuomo's inauguration, President Reagan delivered a speech in Ohio in which he denounced such programs as food stamps, the minimum wage and urban renewal. The audience stood and applauded, unconcerned by the prospect of food being taken from the mouths of hungry children.)

Suddenly it is 1994. Ronald Reagan was two Presidents ago and voters are no longer interested in hearing how Mr. Cuomo sacrificed funding for his own initiatives in order to fend off the worst consequences of Mr. Reagan's policies for New Yorkers.

Voters have short memories and no patience with details. The feeling now is that it is time for Mr. Cuomo to go.

But there's a catch. As we hustle Mr. Cuomo out the door on the left, we must turn hurriedly, put on a happy face and embrace State Senator George Pataki, a wholly owned subsidiary of Alfonse D'Amato, as he enters through the door on the right.

Are New Yorkers ready to do this? Mr. Pataki is a thoroughly undistinguished state legislator who is so beholden to Mr. D'Amato that Herbert, in the Republican candidate, for comptroller, dubbed him "Alfonse Pataki." Mr. D'Amato, no

Here is the catch.

champion of ethical behavior, tried to funnel a few hundred thousand dollars into Mr. Pataki's campaign, but a judge intervened and told Mr. Pataki to return whatever money he had received.

Mr. Pataki's campaign is being run largely by political operatives affiliated with Mr. D'Amato. If Mr. Pataki is invited by the voters to take up residence in the Statehouse, he assured that a substantial amount of room will have to be set aside to accommodate Mr. D'Amato's baggage.

As far as the issues are concerned, Mr. Pataki has positioned himself on the cutting edge of expediency. You want tax cuts? Bingo! You want the death penalty? No problem. You want prisons? You've got them.

Whatever it takes, baby. This, of course, can lead to trouble. Mr. Pataki got caught lying about whether he had voted against a ban on assault weapons. He had, but he said he hadn't.

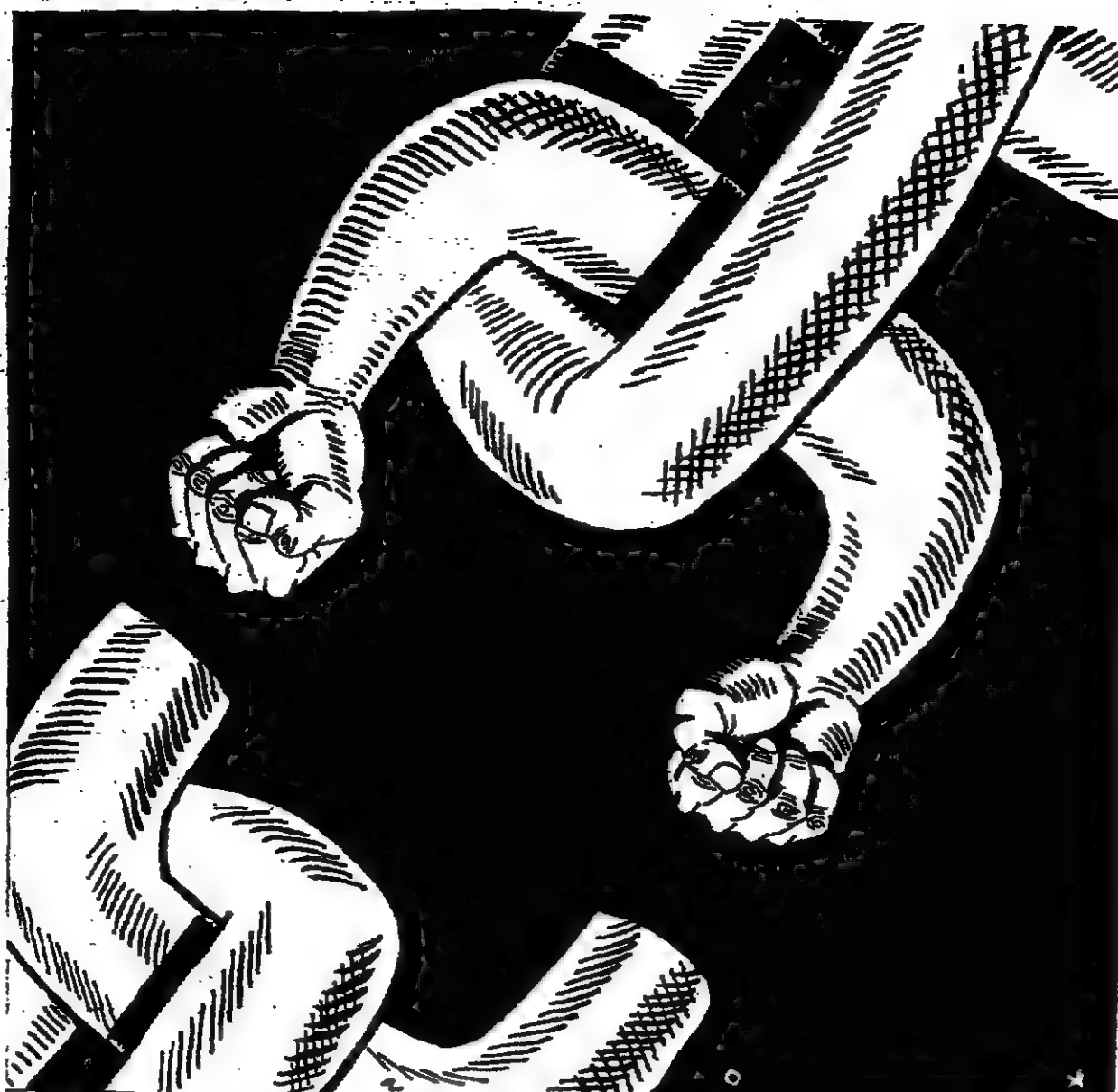
On abortion, Mr. Pataki has been all over the place, depending on the campaign at hand, or perhaps the phases of the moon. Two years ago a voters guide put out by a Right to Life political action committee said Mr. Pataki "claims to be pro-choice," but added, "He has a pro-life voting record."

Taxes? Mr. Pataki has promised a wildly unrealistic tax cut of \$5.6 billion. It is a promise he cannot possibly keep without making catastrophic reductions in state services. A tax cut of that magnitude will not happen.

But Mr. Pataki was not content with making wild tax promises. Last week he vowed to crack down on crime by abolishing parole and lengthening prison terms for violent offenders. This sounds terrific. But it means that the prison population will grow substantially and that thousands of new cells (at \$100,000 each) will have to be built to accommodate it. This will add billions to the state budget.

I asked Mr. Pataki if he had any idea how much his crime plan would cost. He said he did not. I asked if he expected it to interfere with his promised tax cuts. He said no.

I began to wonder if Mr. Pataki really believed the things he was saying. I thought about calling Mr. D'Amato to find out.



Haiti Emerges, Eyes Blinking, In the Sunlight of Democracy

By Jean-Bertrand Aristide

TPORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti today the light of democracy burns brightly in Haiti. It illuminates our nation's promise and potential to become a full partner in the community of nations. Many times during our three-year national nightmare, the light of democracy flickered and grew dim. But that light did not fail. The collective hopes of the Haitian people for a new beginning sustained it, and the international community raised it high so that it shone like a beacon, brightening dark corners far and wide.

Just as Nelson Mandela had to adjust upon being freed from his dark prison, we Haitians are again adjusting to this bright light of freedom. I thank President Clinton for his leadership; the United States Congress for its support; human rights, civil rights and religious leaders and all democracy-loving people for their solidarity; and the U.S. troops for their participation in this first critical phase of the re-establishment of democracy.

Aided by the Multinational Force deployed under U.N. Security Council Resolution 940, we are on the path to reconciliation and justice. We are starting to see familiar signposts. We see our refugees returning to rebuild the country they fled in terror. We see Haitians expressing their political views free from fear or intimidation. We see the civic and grass-roots

Now, to rebuild the economy and heal old wounds.

groups that form the backbone of Haiti's democracy beginning to regroup. We see the Parliament beginning to function and civilian elected officials at every level beginning to return to the posts they were forced to abandon for nearly three years. We soon hope to see our peaceful public demonstrations uninterrupted by political violence and political killings.

Haiti has paid a heavy toll to travel this path. We have lost 5,000 patriots, among them Father Jean-Marie Vincent, Minister of Justice Guy Malary and the democracy activist Antoine Izemery. And the road ahead is long and difficult.

Right now we have no functioning judiciary or penal system. Our military absorbs the lion's share of the national budget and for too long has been outside the scope of civilian control. There is no civilian police force — it must be created virtually from scratch. Inflation has soared, the value of our currency has plummeted and bank lending has effectively stopped. Without a stable business environment, we cannot attract much-needed investment. We have an 85 percent illiteracy rate and one of the world's highest infant mortality rates. We must immediately begin a campaign to construct new schools and clinics to ensure Haiti's future.

Addressing these challenges is my Government's most pressing priority. We welcome the international community's pledges of financial support for our reconstruction package and economic stabilization pro-

gram. We urge all freedom-loving nations to continue to support us as we build the new Haiti of peace, reconciliation and justice for all.

We make a special appeal to the international business community: Haiti welcomes your investment. You will find an open climate and a work force willing and eager to learn.

We have developed an economic plan that we are confident will restore the World Bank's confidence in Haiti, completely undermined these past three years by the devastation wrought by the coup leaders. In 1991, the bank commended our Government for "providing a window of opportunity for the country to move towards sustained social and economic progress."

The U.S. Embassy praised our "surprisingly successful revenue collection, all accomplished in the last six months of the year," when my Presidency began; we reversed a six-year record of Government deficit. Now, with the strong financial support and solidarity of the international community, we will move toward greater political and economic stability and toward insuring Haiti's future as a democracy.

What are our first steps? I will name my new Prime Minister and Cabinet and we will begin to create an efficient, pared-down, decentralized Government that works for and with all citizens. Within the next several days, I will welcome a delegation of representatives of the multilateral financial institutions, to expedite the release of much needed assistance. I will replace the departed coup leaders with reform minded officers and will continue the process of identifying qualified individuals to serve as interim police until the new civilian police force can be created. I will be working with the Parliament to secure passage of legislation to create an independent judiciary.

Haiti's greatest resource is its people. Today, we begin to insure that all Haitians receive an education, access to basic health care and the means to make a living — whether in our traditional way, through farming, or in a new way, through reconstruction and revitalization programs in the industrial sector.

Already, my Government has launched a nationwide immunization program. Over the next several days, we are distributing textbooks and notebooks and pens to our schoolchildren. Soon we will welcome our expatriate teachers, doctors and nurses to begin training new professionals.

Over the rest of my term, which ends in 1996, my Government will aim to build at least one new school and one new clinic in each of Haiti's 565 communal sections, or townships. To insure Haiti's renewal, we are beginning a nationwide tree-planting program and are starting a seed distribution, irrigation and anti-erosion campaign. Over the next few months, we will be putting Haitians to work rebuilding their country, providing needed jobs and training.

Never before, to my knowledge, has a democratically elected leader returned peacefully to an office usurped by force. We hope that Haiti's triumph will give strength to fledgling democracies worldwide. On behalf of the Haitian people, I thank the countries that played a leadership role in advancing this policy within the United Nations and the Organization of American States — the U.S., which is now so ably spearheading the multinational force phase of the international missions; Venezuela, which offered a temporary home during those first difficult months in exile; France, our sister nation, which helped to promote European coopera-

tion and support; Canada, whose Government never wavered in its steadfast political and financial support, and Argentina, which has pledged important support of the international mission.

Many people have asked me what it feels like to be going home after three years in exile. The answer is surprisingly simple. Though separated from my country, I have remained a Haitian and a citizen of the community of freedom-loving people. My country's constitutional crisis brought this community together in our common love of democracy. Today, we are all Haitians, celebrating restoration of the civilian Government in Haiti and the shared values we hold dear.

Journal

FRANK RICH

Playing With Fear

It's a dirty job but some fool had to do it. Enter Guy Molinari, the Staten Island Borough President, who declared last week that New Yorkers must not elect "an admitted lesbian" as attorney general. Mr. Molinari's own Republican candidate, Dennis Vacco, is behind by more than 15 points in the polls, so why not bash the sexual orientation of his opponent, Karen Burstein, to try to narrow the gap?

The ruse could backfire. A new poll finds that 72 percent of New York's voters say a candidate's sexuality makes "no difference" and that 88 percent believe gay people deserve equal job opportunities. Mr. Molinari's own 67-year-old homosexual brother, no less, piped up to The Daily News: "It doesn't matter what orientation a person has if a person is qualified to do the job. I don't see why you have to go into it, except for political points."

Which, of course, is exactly why Guy Molinari did go into it. Even in New York some fraction of the public considers homosexuals a cabal, out to force a gay "life style" on schoolchildren and unsuspecting adults by indoctrinating them in gay sexuality and licentious pop culture. While 72 percent of New Yorkers don't take this view, 28 percent is not nothing in a close election.

But what is it that those who fear homosexuals really fear? The answer to this question seemed more elusive than ever last week, as the nation devoured a new survey of its sexual habits revealing that only somewhere between 3 and 10 percent of the population is gay. Even if gay Americans really were a monolithic army determined to impose a subversive agenda on the land, the mission would be doomed to defeat by the numbers alone.

The religious right and its political patrons, led by Oliver North and Jesse Helms, might argue that the small size of the gay population is beside the point, since only a few powerful subversives are needed to undermine American virtues. Much as Communist screenwriters once allegedly tried to sneak propaganda into Shirley Temple movies, this theory goes, so a cadre of well-placed homosexuals and their godless fellow hedonists are plotting against family values in the mainstream culture today.

Yet this fear, too, is absurd. The latest evidence can be found in a new "Hollywood" issue of Out, a gay monthly, in which a number of prom-

inent producers, executives and artists in the film and television industries identify themselves as gay. Not only does it turn out that they work in such dens of iniquity as Disney, but they are responsible for such sinful fare as "Father of the Bride" and "The Flintstones."

To be sure, anyone responsible for "The Flintstones" deserves a sound bashing, but sexual orientation has nothing to do with it. Homosexuals who make awful family movies deserve the same punishment as their straight brethren.

An even more dramatic example of how little homosexuals conform to the stereotypes of those who demonize them can be found in today's New York Times Magazine, which tells of Steve Gunderson, a seven-term Re-

Newt & Guy & Steve & Karen.

publican Congressman from rural Wisconsin who is openly gay. Mr. Gunderson is also pro-life and antigay control. In the 1990's, he has been rated as low as 20 by the liberal Americans for Democratic Action and as high as 80 by the American Conservative Union.

Mr. Gunderson's endorsement of much of G.O.P. orthodoxy does not stop others in his party from vilifying him, however. Because he does favor allowing homosexuals to serve in the military and believes that sex education is essential to fight the spread of AIDS among teenagers, he, too, stands accused of fomenting an unacceptable "life style."

One Republican who has not tarred Mr. Gunderson is his friend the Speaker-in-waiting, Newt Gingrich, who invited him into the G.O.P. House leadership. Unlike Guy Molinari, Mr. Gingrich recognized that a homosexual like Mr. Gunderson, even if he favors gay civil rights, poses no threat to the Republic.

But is Mr. Gingrich principled or humane enough to stand up to the powers within his party, starting with the religious right, who sponsor anti-gay-rights ballot initiatives and demagogues against a gay menace? Certainly not in this election year, when there's still time to exploit irrational fears to scare up a few more votes.

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CELEBRITY

The Half-Life of Celebrity (Just Ask Tommy Meighan)

By NEAL GABLER

Walter Winchell. There was a time when that name would have hit the ear with the same crisp report as Garbo, Cagney, Bogart or Presley. It was a name that once would have instantly conjured the image of a bantam in a snap-brim gray fedora and summoned a voice, high and staccato, firing words like a Tommy-gun. Every American knew Winchell. His syndicated gossip column and weekly radio broadcast reached an estimated 50 million readers and listeners out of an adult population of roughly 75 million. He starred in movies, inspired songs, stirred controversies. He was at the very apex of celebrity.

Today, less than 25 years after his death, Winchell is one of a legion of celebrities who were once household names and then faded into oblivion — people like the playboy Midwestern brothers, the journalist Arthur Brisbane, the movie stars Tommy Meighan and Tom Mix, even the cracker-barrel wit Will Rogers, who is remembered now more as the protagonist of the Broadway musical "The Will Rogers Follies" than as one of America's top movie box-office attractions and leading political pundits.

Celebrities are hardly an endangered species; there are more of them these days than ever before. But the lives of most celebrities, like that of Walter Winchell, are parables of perishability. No matter how deeply one seems to have stuck in the national consciousness, time can always unstick him. Today it is Walter Winchell who is a cultural footnote. Twenty years from now it may be Madonna, Tom Cruise, Rush Limbaugh or, quite possibly, all three of them.

What unsticks them is the question. The most obvious answer is that it is a matter of numbers. For decades, an ever-expanding pool of celebrities has been competing for a finite public attention. So long as American culture remained regionalized and so long as high culture was our only national culture, the pool was relatively small — mainly politicians, war heroes, the odd baseball player and entertainer. But demographic and social changes gave rise to a new sense of cultural democracy in the 1920's as ethnic, minority and urban Americans began demanding a larger voice in shaping their world.

The rise of mass media immediately generated a class of national celebrity — names and faces desperately needed to fill the maws of the new media and keep audiences interested. Viewed as the first shared references in our mass culture, celebrities constituted a kind of American repertory company in which a Charles Lindbergh or an

Albert Einstein or a Mae West could always be counted upon to attract readers. Viewed in more ruthless economic terms, these movie stars, athletes, artists, journalists and socialites were really human commodities, if not quite manufactured for the purpose of tantalizing us with their escapades, at least seized upon and exploited for that purpose.

By the late 20's dozens of these celebrities had appeared on the national screen. But celebrities spawned by the mass media to sell papers, magazines and films were obviously different from those who had achieved fame before the advent of mass media. Some 30 years ago in his book "The Image," the historian Daniel J. Boorstin defined the basic difference as that between well-knownness for its own sake (modern celebrity) and fame as the product of greatness (old-fashioned heroism). "The hero was distinguished by his achievement," wrote Mr. Boorstin, "the celebrity by his image or trademark."

A striking case in point is Peggy Hopkins Joyce. In the 30's and 40's, the shapely Joyce was probably as widely known as any entertainer, politician or athlete, though she was none of these. She had enjoyed a brief career as a showgirl and an even briefer one in movies, but her real claim to fame was as a bride. Running away from home with a vaudeville bicyclist at 15, she was married at 18, then again a few years later to a Washington socialite, then to a Chicago lumberman who granted her \$1.4 million in jewelry at their divorce, then to a Swedish nobleman, then to an English engineer and finally to an American banker. Marrying was about all she did, but it was enough to make her a fixture in gossip columns, tabloids and magazines, just as it would a generation later for Zsa Zsa Gabor.

In Mr. Boorstin's postulation, fame rooted in achievement is enduring; to this day, we remember the great athletes of yesterday. By the same token, one could have predicted that Joyce would be forgotten, no matter how famous she was in her own time, because her fame wasn't tethered to any recognizable accomplishment. Or rather it was tethered to a very different kind of accomplishment: being famous.

Though Mr. Boorstin and others chalk modern celebrity up to media manipulation that hoodwinks the public, Americans early on came to appreciate that a Joyce or a Gabor or later a Madonna had indeed achieved something in wrestling fame from the system. To do so took publicity, wiles, luck, maybe even a certain talent. Perhaps more important, the public also understood that if this wasn't quite comparable to winning a war, writing a novel or hitting a home run, the end results at least were all pretty much the same.

Here is where heroism and celebrity collapse into each other. In a society where fame is the end and where the means one



Just Memories
The one-time showgirl Peggy Hopkins Joyce, left, circa 1932; above, the 1930's film star Tommy Meighan in the film "The Alaskan," and right, Brenda Frazier as a debutante in 1938—Certain personalities refract something about the culture or embody some hope or dream.



uses to gain it are largely irrelevant, fame paradoxically functions as a kind of equalizer. It reduces all celebrities, those who have achieved something and those who have achieved absolutely nothing, to the same valence — a Will Rogers and a Peggy Hopkins Joyce, a Norman Schwarzkopf and a Kato Kaelin.

This is how I suspect most people regard celebrities now. They see them as people who take the national stage, do their act and leave, invited to return only when they have something new to perform. This permits a lot of individuals to get a shot — ours is certainly the first generation in which hair stylists and diet gurus can be famous — but it virtually guarantees a short run. Once you've achieved fame, you've reached the summit. The rest is all downhill.

What that means is that celebrities, like other commodities, have a built-in obsolescence — an obsolescence that is only hastened by the ways fame is purveyed. Nowadays we almost always think of the famous in terms of images. In fact, we are encouraged to think of them that way because it is the images of them that sell them: scenes

from movies, photos in newspapers and magazines, videotape on the evening news. (It is also why celebrity photographers like Annie Leibovitz and Herb Ritts command the salaries they do.) But images are disposable. New images are constantly shunting old ones aside, not only in the media but more important, in our minds. Modern visual media leave few imprints.

Some observers, of course, would say that this is because canny merchandisers are bating us with the new hot thing. In truth, though, we may want to forget because to do so is central to the function of celebrity in our own lives. One reason we read gossip, scavenge tabloids, watch "Hard Copy" or pore through Vanity Fair, one reason we care about celebrities at all, is so we can feel as if we are in the know, at the edge, part of the national loop. It is a means of asserting our worth, as if knowing who the newest celebrity is gives us one up on those who don't know.

Naturally this puts a heavy premium on a fresh supply of celebrities to help keep us ahead of the curve. Old ones get stale or become passé. Dead ones usually disappear

entirely. (MTV declares itself "the essence of new" in a recent ad campaign, playing to the same impulse.) The bonus is that by seeming to anoint new celebrities and banish many of the old from the media spotlight, the public not only feels knowing, it gets the exhilaration of seeming to exercise power over the culture. The public giveth and the public taketh away. It is the only way we can redress the imbalance between the famous and ourselves.

So a Burt Reynolds fades from view and a Jason Priestley rises, a Debbie Harry fades and a Madonna rises, a Phyllis Diller fades and a Roseanne rises. It is a constant process and a constant challenge for us to keep up with it. It is not, however, a wholly capricious process in which one celebrity is just as good as another. There is a kind of instinct at work — one that recognizes certain personalities as emblematic. Even evanescent celebrities like Peggy Hopkins Joyce or the 30's debutante Brenda Frazier, whose only talent was her styliness, get their moment because they refract something about the culture, reify some hope, dream or aspiration.

FILM

Chekhov's 'Vanya' on Film

By PATRICIA BOSWORTH

Anton Chekhov would be pleased. In the next several months no less than three versions of his "Uncle Vanya" will come to movie screens.

"Vanya on 42d Street," opening on Friday, is André Gregory's no-frills rehearsal of the play filmed by Louis Malle with Wallace Shawn as Uncle Vanya and Julianne Moore as the femme fatale Yelena. Also forthcoming is an Australian version of "Vanya" called "Country Life," directed by Michael Blakemore, which will be released in the United States next year. Filmed in the Australian outback, with a post-World War I sheep farm standing in for a fin de siècle Russian estate, "Country Life" stars John Hargreaves as Jack (Vanya) and Greta Scacchi as Deborah (Yelena).

A third "Vanya," a Welsh movie called "August," will be released next year by Granada Film of Britain. Anthony Hopkins directs and co-stars as Vanya with Kate Burton as Yelena. (Mr. Hopkins is currently rehearsing a stage production of the play, with essentially the same cast, to open later this month in Wales.) Why so many "Vanyas," and why now? Why is this melancholy 100-year-old play about family intrigue and frustrated love proving so attractive to late-20th-century film makers? In part, it may simply be coincidence. "It's a fluke I decided to do mine, a matter of an opening in my schedule, really," said Mr. Hopkins, adding that he had had no idea that so many others were in the works.

But he does see the contemporary appeal. "The characters in 'Vanya,' they're so universal," he said. "All stuck in situations they can't get out of easily — like most human beings."

Mr. Malle, the director of the film "Vanya on 42d Street," likens the play to a "piece of fine music," and adds, "there will always be other interpretations."

The drama, with its five great acting roles (the lovely Yelena, the plain Sonya, the middle-aged country doctor, the bitter Uncle Vanya and the hoary, self-centered professor), has perennially attracted actors and directors — particularly those of an age to play Vanya or the doctor. And now, those same actors

and directors have the clout to turn "Uncle Vanya" into a film. Since the play is so much about people's interior lives, film, with its use of close-ups, has the added benefit of allowing the surface of the play to fall away and leave viewers with the essence of Chekhov.

Chekhov's melancholy tale is surprisingly attractive to modern directors.

The story of "Uncle Vanya" is a universal one. With its complexity, its despair over wasted lives and its contemporary discussions of ecology, "Uncle Vanya" seems particularly well suited to modern times. Chekhov's play, originally produced by the Moscow Art Theater in the 1890's (after an earlier version had been rejected by a St. Petersburg theater in 1889 "for want of effects, situations and interesting characters"), tells of an emotionally charged family living uneasily on a decaying country estate. Over five acts, a pompous old professor and his beautiful young wife, Yelena, return to the estate, set everyone on edge and then leave. When the play opened at the Moscow Art Theater in 1899, some critics complained that the story was told so nonchalantly that nothing happened except a bungled attempt at murder.

There are two interwoven plots in "Uncle Vanya." One involving family money, the other love. Sonya, the old professor's plain and dutiful daughter by his first wife, has remained to run the farm with her Uncle Vanya. Sonya and Uncle Vanya have for years been sending money to the professor, and only upon his return does Vanya realize that the professor has been a lifelong mediocrity. Not coincidentally, this mediocrity now wants to sell the farm. Vanya's anguish is expressed in Act III, when he tries twice to shoot the professor and misses. The failed shooting is both a joke and a sign that Chekhov can recognize absurdity in excruciating disappointment.

Then there are the love triangles. A doctor obsessed with soil and trees and taken to drink (played by Larry Pine in "Vanya on 42d Street") is

called in to treat the professor and falls for his wife, the enchanting Yelena. Uncle Vanya is smitten with Yelena, too, and Sonya is hopelessly in love with the doctor. Yet when the play is over and the professor and Yelena leave, life returns to what it was before. Uncle Vanya and Sonya resume their drudgery: survival is a central theme of this play. When dreams fail, work is the answer.

"Uncle Vanya" has been performed endlessly throughout the world, inspiring actors as diverse as Laurence Olivier and Christopher Walken. Needless to say, the roles of Vanya and the doctor are catnip for actors, and the sultry Yelena and the plain Sonya are similarly appealing to actresses. "Antic one minute — despairing the next," said Kate Burton, who is Yelena in the Welsh film version. "The challenges for actors and directors are enormous."

Although Chekhov insisted that his play was a comedy, many interpret it as tragedy. The critic Harold Clurman believed both qualities were true. "Life," he said, "is a tragedy for those who feel, a comedy for those who think."

Richard Gilman, the author of a forthcoming study of Chekhov, describes Chekhov as having been the most intuitive dramatist of the 20th century. "Chekhov never tells you anything flat out, but there are always plenty of clues," Mr. Gilman explained. "Chekhov is all about subtext. The interior life of his characters is unbelievably powerful."

That quality makes filming "Uncle Vanya" particularly attractive. What Mr. Gilman cites as the play's subtext — "what's left unsaid, the details" — is what film can explore even better than stage because of the camera's intimacy.

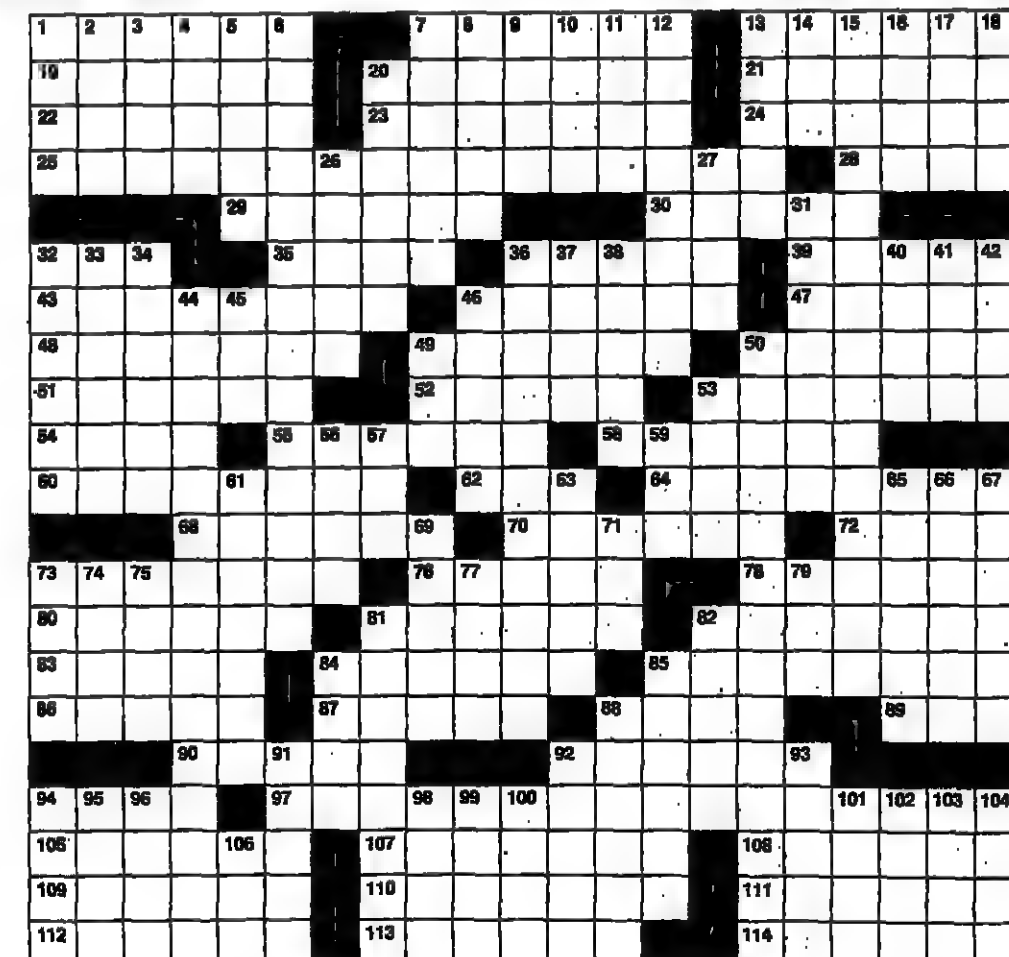
Mr. Blakemore, the Australian director, offers other reasons for the play's current appeal. He directed "Uncle Vanya" on stage in London in 1988, and used the story as a taking-off point for "Country Life," for which he wrote a screenplay in 1978. He said he "steals shamelessly" from the great scenes in the play, especially those between Yelena and the doctor, but that two-thirds of the screenplay is material not found in "Vanya."

To a play that already has two large roles for middle-aged actors (the bitter Vanya and the idealistic doctor), Mr. Blakemore has added a third by lowering the age of the professor, a part he himself plays. "He's 10 years younger," he said, making the professor 60-ish, "and capable of much more mischief than his role model" in the play.

OUT OF THEIR ELEMENT

BY RAYMOND HAMEL / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- Language from which "bog" is derived
 - Peer Gynt's Arabic love
 - Begin a losing streak
 - Part of the iris
 - Fish that spawns at high tide
 - Galileo's muse
 - Noises Off and others
 - Phantom
 - Shred
 - Unexpected hitch
 - Commercial
 - Little terror of children's literature
 - "Little Rascals" creator Hal
 - Car ad abbr.
 - Cubemeister Rubik
 - Fold
 - German metaphysician
 - Brooklyn Bridge engineer
 - Intended
 - "All systems —"
 - Secures
 - weenie
 - Activities
 - 1983 Michael Jackson hit
 - "America's Most Wanted" info
 - Fever
 - Pearl Harbor tributes
 - Arrest
 - Judicial writ
 - Adds spice to
 - Rock group with a blissful-sounding name
 - Hairlike
 - Spiff up
 - "Green Mansions" novelist William Henry
 - Crossword bird
 - "Chilly Scenes of Winter" author
 - In — (unborn)
 - Three times
 - Robin Hood, e.g.
 - Toast to one's health
 - "Man of —"
 - Track athlete
 - "A Girl Named —" (1962 film)
 - Fakery
 - Kind of tank
 - Agreement
 - Head material, perhaps
 - Your Fr.
 - On the mother's side of the family
 - East Indian sailor
 - Seed covering
 - Clumsy one



- DOWN**
- Kind of sail
 - Asian sea
 - Spine-tingling: Var.
 - Points
 - Acress Graff
 - Impossible dream
 - Recitative song
 - Blue picture
 - Sharing, as a secret
 - Type of steering
 - Ship cabin
 - "The Vampire Lestat" writer
 - Architectural drop
 - Jody's mother in "The Yarnling"
 - Best seller of 1951, with "The"
 - Aware of
 - Emulated Ananias
 - Throw down the gauntlet

- Freshwater minnow
- Crescent-shaped window
- Levi Strauss rival
- Tenor Jan
- Type of afferent nerve
- Institute (self-improvement group)
- St. George, for one
- Casino employee
- Not uniform
- "America's Most Wanted" info
- Fever
- Pearl Harbor tributes
- Arrest
- Judicial writ
- Adds spice to
- Rock group with a blissful-sounding name
- Hairlike
- Spiff up
- "Green Mansions" novelist William Henry
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- Fakery
- Kind of tank
- Agreement
- Head material, perhaps
- Your Fr.
- On the mother's side of the family
- East Indian sailor
- Seed covering
- Clumsy one

- Sounds of impact
- Lexicographer
- Defendant's friend, often: Abbr.
- Words after "hop" or "get around"
- Angry, with "up"
- Like a den, often
- Actress Lords
- "Swan Lake" garb
- More extravagant
- Five to ten, e.g.
- Yokum boy
- Milk, in Milano
- Mrs. Gorbachev
- Dadaist pieces
- Projectionist's need
- Inking
- Elegance
- Quechua ruler
- Buzz's lunar partner
- Bellows painting — at Sharkey's"
- Guard's cry
- Eminently draftable
- Pioneering video game
- The rocks in "on the rocks"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

JADED PEEKS BOO STACTE
 AMISS RETRAP ALTO SALARY
 CORPORATEANCE ECOPE
 ALGA UZI BOROUAL ETIES
 NEER GENERALSTARD ANT
 ASSYS SERAPE EPPDE LIAO
 SEL NOTC BEC IDS BOULE
 PSI ALDAD SAOU BRACCO
 ITE PUTRID RAPIDURES VAS
 NOUN SERGEANTPUNISHMENT
 ONTO REETLEREADS ARTE
 FIEHONARSHALSTRIKE OMAN
 FIANHIGATIONAL SENIOR ORY
 AGARS RIAL GISEE RED
 CANNY DON MIN BRAGG SSN
 ATTU STAF OOM MEL
 RAPS LINED OOLASH TARS
 ARE COLONELLSADDER TEMA
 MAPLE DEFEATS NON TSPS
 EXPEND MAJORSCHORRAGEOUS
 LIESTO ECA AEROP EARNIE
 SARTOR REY SLIPS LUTED

Battered wife arouses sympathy, but justice must be done

LAW REPORT

ASHER FELIX LANDAU

In the District Court of Nazareth, before the President Judge Yehuda Abramowitz, and Judges Gideon Giza and Mordechai Hess, in the matter of the State of Israel versus Carmella Bouhbut (Cr. C. 29/94).

ON the afternoon of February 18, 1994, Carmella Bouhbut was resting when her husband, Yehuda, demanded that she help him in the kitchen. She asked him to let her rest, but he shouted and slapped her.

She responded that "you only know how to hit," and mentioned the name of a woman with whom he was romantically involved.

He then started beating her, and shouted that he would kill her. He picked up a knife and injured her.

She tried to run away, but he followed her, shouting and breaking furniture.

"Now that you know, I'll bring her to the house, and you can serve her as well," he said, referring to his mistress.

He then sat in the lounge, and she went into her son's bedroom. There she noticed her son's army rifle on the floor. Under great emotional strain, she picked up

the rifle, undid the magazine which was bound to the hand-grip with a rubber band, inserted it, released the safety catch, and cocked the weapon.

Her husband heard the rifle being cocked and approached her. She aimed it at him and pulled the trigger. She shot all 31 bullets, 24 of which entered his body and caused his death.

CARMELLA Bouhbut was convicted in the Nazareth District Court of contravening section 298 of the Penal Law of 1977, under which "A person who by an unlawful act or omission causes the death of another is guilty of manslaughter and liable to imprisonment for 20 years."

She was also convicted of unlawfully possessing a weapon under section 144(a) of the Law.

In passing sentence, the court first noted that she had admitted all the facts in the indictment, and had been convicted on that basis.

Moreover, the prosecution charged her with manslaughter and not murder apparently because, in its view, her actions did not show the cold deliberation necessary to support a conviction for murder.

The court then described the

defendant's life in her home as revealed in the indictment, the evidence, and the reports before it.

Bouhbut was born in 1954 and grew up in a warm, nonviolent home. She met Yehuda Bouhbut when she was 14 and, after falling pregnant, married him two years later against her parents' wishes. The couple had four children.

For years, she lived under a reign of terror. Her husband insisted she meet all his demands, which were often accompanied by verbal and physical abuse.

He beat her on every part of her body, not only with his hands and fists, but also with various implements, such as knives, screwdrivers and forks.

She was afraid to report his conduct to the authorities, apparently because of his threats to kill her if she did so.

The court referred particularly to an incident in which she fled from her home in Kiryat Shmona, barefoot and bleeding, after her husband had beaten her violently.

With the help of a friend, she found refuge in the home of a

rabbi in Ashdod. Her husband discovered her address and begged her to return home, promising to mend his ways.

But a little later, in November 1993, he beat her on the head with a wooden sandal. She fell, and was taken to hospital.

The police were informed of this incident but, intimidated by her husband's threats, she denied that he had struck her.

After Carmella Bouhbut killed her husband, she tried to kill herself, and had been hospitalized since then.

After hearing medical evidence, the court held that although she suffered from depression, it was clear she could distinguish between right and wrong, and was responsible for her actions.

Her children, and the deceased's father and brothers, had asked the court to show mercy toward her.

The children said they had refrained from defending their mother, or informing the authorities of her situation, because they were too afraid of their father,

who terrorized the whole family. The deceased's father and brothers also attributed their failure to report his conduct to their fear of him.

THE COURT agreed with the District Attorney that reporting the deceased's conduct could perhaps have averted the fatal outcome.

It also shared her difficulty in understanding how the family could have failed to report his conduct, of which they were aware. The court was faced with the tragedy of a woman beaten into submission.

At the same time it could not overlook the fact that she never tried to escape her sufferings by taking the usual steps of informing the police or welfare authorities, or by seeking refuge in a shelter established for that purpose.

The prosecution had rightly submitted that the court, with all its understanding of the defendant's plight, could not reconcile itself to her taking the law into her own hands and sentencing her

husband to death. A person was not permitted to determine the life and fate of another human being as he pleased, in complete disregard of what was demanded by a civilized and enlightened society.

The court was fully aware of the defendant's completely clean record, and of her having acted under severe emotional stress. Nevertheless, it could not accept the fatal result with equanimity.

It had to take into account the message which the sentence it imposed would convey.

Unhappily, this was certainly not the only case of violence within the family.

The court was bound, therefore, not to signal to others in the defendant's situation that they could take the law into their own hands and kill the aggressor.

This was also not a case of self-defense in the course of an assault, nor of provocation - from either the objective or subjective aspects - as required by law as a mitigating factor.

THE COURT then considered precedents cited by both counsel, noting that the prosecution had requested the defendant be sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment.

It was clear, the court contin-

ued, that the defendant did not deserve the maximum penalty of 20 years' imprisonment, nor a punishment to deter her from further wrongdoing.

The punishment was to be such as to emphasize the court's stand that the defendant had exceeded all reasonable bounds in taking it upon herself to sentence her husband to death.

It was the court's duty and function to impose punishments which would, as far as possible, prevent similar crimes in the future.

Even when living with a husband became unbearable, the court could not extend undue leniency unless the defendant acted reasonably and fairly, as was recognized in the principles of criminal law.

FOR THE above reasons, the court sentenced the defendant to seven years' imprisonment from the date of her arrest (February 18, 1994), this being the appropriate punishment in the circumstances of the case.

District Attorney for the North Esther Goffer appeared for the state, and David Spiegel appeared for the defendant.

Sentence was passed on October 3, 1994.

Bright side of breast cancer

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

BETTY Rollin was struck twice by breast cancer - and she is grateful. The American TV journalist is thankful not only for surviving, but for the fact that the disease changed her for the better.

"I have a greater appreciation of the limitations of time and appreciate the really important things," she says. Rollin, who appears on NBC's *Nightly News*, was here recently as the guest of the Israel Cancer Association, which is highlighting breast cancer in its Knock on the Door campaign tomorrow.

"I wrote a book called *First You Cry*, about my experiences, and then a film was made about it," Rollin says. "I speak about the subject whenever I can."

ICA president Sory Eban invited Rollin to Israel to promote the fund-raising campaign. It was her second visit: she was here in 1969 to write a story for *Look* magazine about women in the IDF.

"My message is that one can have breast cancer and live - and live happily," Rollin says. "Too many women die from breast cancer, but many women live. There is a bright side. I want to persuade women to get mammograms to increase their chances of survival."

Rollin was 39 when her first husband noticed a lump in her

breast. "The doctors did a mammogram, but the first time they didn't see anything," she says. Only a second X-ray showed a tumor, and she underwent a partial mastectomy. It came as a shock, because of her age and the fact that there was no history of breast cancer in her family.

In 1976, when the disease was considered "not only unmentionable but even disgusting," Rollin - who for years had written for *Look*, *Vogue* and *The New York Times* - completed her book. It was very difficult to find a publisher. The hardcover edition sold about 90,000 copies, and the paperback, reissued in 1992 by HarperCollins, continues to sell well. Rollin says the softcover edition will be available soon here.

"It wasn't a medical book, but one filled with personal experiences," Rollin says.

After her recovery, Rollin realized that she had no joy from her marriage; thinking that she may have only a few years to live, she decided to get a divorce.

Ten years ago, already remarried to Dr. Harold Edwards, she discovered the cancer had returned and she underwent a radical mastectomy. Rollin, who is childless, had no close blood relatives to turn to, but her second husband was a great help.

"Most women think their husband or partner are upset by the

loss of a breast. But we don't give men enough credit. Most men worry much more about their loved one dying than about the breast."

Free of cancer for a decade, Rollin looks well and younger than her age 58 years. "I've been given a clean bill of health, but somebody like me is always a little bit frightened forever. Not very frightened, but it's more than the likelihood of being hit by a car."

After her second operation, she changed her diet, but says she would have done so anyway upon reaching middle age. "I eat a little fat and oils [animal fats are regarded as a possible risk factor for breast cancer] as possible." She is also very physically active.

Rollin, who sits on the executive of the umbrella body of US groups that fight cancer, was pleased to appear at the ICA's official fund-raising opening at Beit Hanassi.

"When I began talking about this subject, the only women who were talking openly about their breast cancer were Shirley Temple, Betty Ford and Happy Rockefeller," she says. "Today, the situation has gone to the other extreme. On US talk shows, everybody speaks in intimate detail about every problem."

Rollin says she is "always ready to give my cheery cancer talk."



US journalist Betty Rollin, 58, overcame cancer twice.

Having overcome cancer twice, I barely need to do more than show up healthy. I try to speak about

the bright side of the disease; it helps a great deal if women realize they are not alone."

Chernobyl still leaks

EARTHLY CONCERNS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

THERE is now a consensus that the entire Chernobyl nuclear reactor complex in Ukraine should be closed.

Declared a hazard by the International Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the site of the 1986 nuclear accident of unprecedented severity today poses a threat to most of Europe and, due to vagaries of wind and weather, perhaps to half the globe.

Even the Ukrainian government wants to decommission the remaining reactors which they know to be "accidents just waiting to happen." It is known that the sarcophagus covering the reactor that caused the previous disaster is leaking dangerous amounts of radioactivity into the area.

Yet, decommissioning a complex of this size poses some serious problems. First and foremost is the problem of finding a source of energy to replace what is still being generated by these plants.

The Ukrainian government wants to build a chain of reactors in southern Ukraine but this, the Ukrainians say, will cost at least \$2.2 billion.

The financially-strapped Ukraine must get these funds from other countries, which are leery of investing because Western ex-

perts say it would cost far more to build the reactors to the safety standards demanded in the West.

So far Western countries have committed to only \$800 million, which they say will almost cover the cost of decommissioning the hazardous complex. Ukraine says this would leave them with an energy shortfall.

Western experts, however, claim that Ukrainians could manage without the Chernobyl complex if they would update their industrial systems.

They point out that per industrial production unit Ukraine uses more than three times as much energy as industries in the US and almost six times as much as the Japanese. They claim that proper end usage would easily cover the shortfall and make additional nuclear reactors redundant.

Perhaps it is due to the many years of Soviet domination when nuclear power was seen as the hallmark of efficiency that the Ukrainians are not enthusiastic about these alternative plans and prefer to build the reactors.

Moreover, there is no way that Ukraine's neighbors can force them to dismantle the Chernobyl complex. Not even when it is their risk as well.

Ancient language makes a comeback in US schools

JEFF BARNARD

MEDFORD, Oregon

IN a small classroom at St. Mary's High School, teacher Frank Phillips asked his students to translate the meaning of the words, "*Fidelitas, Integritas, Fortitudo*," the motto of the Roman Legions.

"Loyalty, integrity," answered student Rachel Miller. "What is integrity, literally?" interjected Phillips. "Integrity means wholeness. It meant to the army that it had no holes or flaws in character."

In this classroom and others around the US, the dead language of the Roman Empire lives on.

Schools dedicated to preparing students for college still consider Latin an essential part of a learned

mind, much as they did 300 years ago. Students feel they do better on standardized tests, particularly vocabulary tests, if they studied Latin. And they are tapping into the Internet and playing computer fantasy games in Latin.

"From 1962 to 1976, we were in a very precipitous decline in Latin enrollment," said Richard LaFleur, a classics professor at the University of Georgia and editor of the newsletter of The America Classical League, an organization of Latin teachers.

"It looked like Latin really was going to become a dead language," LaFleur said. "Enrollment went from 700,000 to only 150,000 in public schools" out of 14 million students.

Since the late '70s, however, the trend has reversed.

"One of the biggest changes in

the past decade is the increased number in elementary grades," LaFleur said. "Also middle-school grades. If you took all that into account, I would guess there were well over half a million."

The increase is enough that Ed Phinney, classics professor at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, is working hard to recruit Latin teachers. He fears there will be an acute shortage when the current crop retires in the next 10 to 15 years.

"We are putting Latin back into the curriculum because we are beginning to see its usefulness in learning," said Phinney. "The usefulness is to introduce students to the vocabulary of Western Europe and the US. The cultural content is also very useful. The culture of the Romans parented American culture."

The value of Latin has never been forgotten at Boston Latin School, the nation's first school when it was established in 1635, a year before Harvard College.

"It's tradition, and we're steeped in tradition," said Cornelia Kelley-LaCambia, assistant headmaster at the school, which is public, but has competitive admissions.

Though Germanic words tend to make up most of everyday speech in English, words from Latin account for 60 percent of the words in the dictionary.

LATIN IS moving into computers, as well. Transparent Language, Inc., a language software company in New Hampshire, will soon offer the *Colloquies of Aelric*, a medieval monk, and other works on CD-ROM. It already of-

fers a Windows program that lets a student read a text with a Latin dictionary right on screen.

Gerald R. Culley, associate professor of classics at the University of Delaware, received a government grant to develop a computer game called "Saltus Teutoburgensis," which casts the player as a survivor of the Teutoburg Forest, where Germanic warriors wiped out three Roman legions in 15 CE.

Students can chat in Latin on computers, as well. At St. Mary's, Phillips' students were in touch via the K-12 Net to students in Belgium.

"It was great," Phillips said. "It spoke Flemish and French, which of course none of us spoke. It was like the Middle Ages, when Latin was the universal language." (Associated Press)

He loved science and Israel

DR. Sidney Edelstein, a man of many interests and a great friend of Israel, died last month in his New Jersey home.

He was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee. After graduating from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he entered the field of textile chemistry and founded Dexter Chemical Corporation, still in operation 50 years later.

He was deeply interested in the history of chemistry, especially concerning textile chemistry and dyes. While compiling what is considered the world's best collection of original books and publications pertaining to the field, he became a leading expert on the subject.

He established the Dexter award for outstanding achievements in the history of chemistry, an annual award adjudicated by the American Chemical Society.

In Israel, he was instrumental in the creation and development of the Shenkar Textile College.

Edelstein and his wife, Mildred, visited Israel often and maintained a residence in Netanya. In the 1960s they began leading groups of American Jews to the country. Following Mildred's interest in helping Israeli working mothers and their children, the Edelsteins donated a number of daycare centers, as well as schools and libraries.

Edelstein served on the board of governors of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. In 1976, he donated his collection of ancient books and manuscripts to the university.

As a friend and colleague, he was a warm person with a keen sense of humor. A perfectionist in all he did, he accomplished much and will be dearly missed. /B.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1994

Inside information probe launched in Mizrahi bid

Competing group makes accusation against Ofer-Wertheim

THE State Attorney's Office is investigating the Ofer-Wertheim group for allegedly receiving inside information to help formulate a bid for the purchase of controlling interest in United Mizrahi Bank.

The investigation was prompted by Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles and MI Holdings, the company responsible for selling the commercial banks.

The investigation is based on accusations made by the Akirov-Steinmetz consortium, which is competing against the Ofer-Wertheim group for the purchase of Mizrahi.

The Akirov-Steinmetz consortium

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

tion said former journalist Doron Rosensweig sold information about Mizrahi's alleged tax problems to Ofer.

Rosensweig, who worked as a freelance reporter at *Globe*, sold information containing suspicions that Mizrahi was involved in tax evasion in 1990 and 1991.

In reaction, Mizrahi said "we do not have any tax problems; there is no truth to the reports on tax evasion."

A senior Income Tax Authority source also denied the accusations. He said the authority has not revealed any problems associ-

ated with Mizrahi's tax payments. Rosensweig reportedly received \$15m. for the information sold to Ofer in the first week of October, several days before the deadline to submit bids for the purchase of Mizrahi.

Rosensweig reportedly offered to sell the same information to the Akirov-Steinmetz group, but the consortium refused to accept it.

The Ofer-Wertheim group denied the accusations. The consortium's representatives said their bid to purchase the bank is based on a legitimate valuation of Mizrahi.

A spokesman for Abeles said the Bank of Israel is not delaying the sale process.

"We won't jettison the tender as long as the suspicions are not proven correct," the spokesman said. "We are interested in selling the bank as soon as possible, but this must be done correctly."

Abeles is examining the implications of the episode with respect to the suitability of the potential buyers.

MI Holdings is checking if the two contenders fairly participated in the tender.

MI Holdings said it is continuing negotiations on the sale of Mizrahi with both consortiums.

Local trade, construction lead surge in economy

JOSE ROSENFELD

LOCAL trade and construction contributed significantly to the surge in economic activity in the third quarter, according to the Bank of Israel's quarterly company survey released yesterday.

Industry also helped lead the expansion, although tourism, as measured by hotel stays, reflected a downturn compared to the third quarter of last year.

A portion of the expansion resulted from a marked increase in sales during the holiday season.

Industrial firms reported continued growth in their activities during the third quarter based on increased exports and a jump in local sales.

A part of the production and sale increases was seasonal, as was the rise in employment.

More large firms reported greater business activity than small firms.

The picture of greater activity is strengthened by reports on industrial stocks, which show stable inventories of finished products and larger stocks of raw materials, reflecting expectations for future growth.

There was also a substantial

drop in firms reporting shortages of workers as an obstacle to their activity.

Construction-related sectors, such as building materials and wood, registered large growth, while export-related sectors, such as electronics, chemicals and metals also expanded. The food sector grew significantly as a result of the holidays.

Local trading firms registered large sales due to the holidays, with a large increase in inventories and sales on credit, while the waiting period for customers to receive their goods remained unchanged.

The majority of construction firms reported an increase in activity and in building starts, after a slowdown during the first half of the year, despite higher prices.

By contrast, there was no significant increase in building completions due to the drop in housing starts in the past.

There was a sharp drop in firms reporting a shortage of workers - a major obstacle during the first half of the year - due to the loosening of the closure of the territories and

the importation of foreign workers.

Greater construction activity was reported by both large and small firms, although only large building firms reported higher prices.

Most hotels reported a drop in activity compared with the highs of the third quarter last year. The fall in activity is consistent with the drop in tourism from abroad.

However, hotels did not report any erosion in stays by local residents or in the average turnover per room. Hotels do not expect a significant change this quarter.

Transportation and telecommunications firms recorded increased activity, mostly in air transportation, due to the sharp rise in residents traveling abroad. There was a more moderate rise in land transportation and telecommunications, while shipping activity dropped slightly.

The central bank's research also compiles the quarterly company survey of 650 firms relating to economic developments during the past quarter, including expectations for the next quarter.

Sithal-Hagal Corporation wins Talia landfill franchise

LIAT COLLINS

SITHAL-HAGAL Corporation has won the franchise to plan, establish, and operate the Talia landfill in the North, near the Kinneret.

"With the selection of the company to operate the Talia franchise, the Environment Ministry has completed the first stage of what can be considered the biggest environmental project ever undertaken by the ministry," ministry director general Israel Peleg said.

The 10-year franchise is expected to cost the corporation - which com-

prises Talia Engineering Consultants Ltd., Sita France, and the Barzani Brothers - nearly \$10 million to establish and operate.

"The dumping fee suggested by Sithal-Hagal is NIS 23.40 per ton," Peleg said. "This price would allow all local authorities to prepare the implementation of the government's 1993 decision to close the 400 small, illegal dumps and concentrate instead on five regional landfills. It will bring about considerable savings in transport fees and the correct environmental treatment of solid waste."

The landfill idea promoted by the ministry has met with opposition

EFI posts increase in net profits to \$5.4m.

RACHEL NEIMAN

SAN FRANCISCO-based Electronics For Imaging has announced a rise in net profits for the third quarter to \$5.4 million from \$3.4m. during the same period last year.

Third quarter revenues went up to \$32.57m. from \$23m., while earnings per share rose 51 percent to \$0.41 from \$0.27.

EFI managing underwriter Robert Stephenson & Co. said the growth in sales "stemmed mainly from unseasonably strong demand in the domestic Canon reseller channel and from substantial sales increases in Japan."

Sales in the Canon market increased 8%, "even though Canon was in the midst of a product transition [and]... business usually slows during the summer," he said.

Following the quarterly report EFI reviewed a number of organizational changes.

These changes were "aimed at freeing up time for Efi Arai and [CFO] Lawrence Levy to begin working on new business opportunities, either through internal development or through acquisition," Robert Stephenson & Co. said.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.



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DEAN WITTER

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____ Thursday, October 20, 1994, Tel Aviv Moriah, 6:00 p.m.
____ Sunday, October 23, 1994, Jerusalem Plaza, 6:00 p.m.
- ☐ I am unable to attend the above mentioned seminars. Please send me information on "Financial Independence for Today's Woman."

Dean Witter, 1225 Franklin Avenue, Garden City, New York 11530

Consortium set up to develop communications services

JUDY SIEGEL

THE government, private industry, and the Technion have set up a new Israeli consortium with \$40 million in funds to develop future telecommunications services.

The project, initiated and promoted by Industry and Trade Ministry chief scientist Yehoshua Gleitman, was announced at a press conference at Bezeq College in Jerusalem.

The consortium will lay down experimental infrastructure to allow the transmission of voice, pictures, and data of any amount and at almost unlimited speeds, Bezeq officials said. This could radically affect business, the medical profession, education, and other fields.

Bezeq is investing NIS 9 million plus advanced optic fibers and switching systems; the Technion will carry out academic research in the field; and local industries, including Tadiran and ECI, will contribute technological applications.

The economic potential of the consortium is expected to reach hundreds of millions of dollars in the next few years.

Histadrut strike funds said used as collateral for Bank Otzar Hahayal

Post Business Staff

TWENTY-NINE million shekels from the Histadrut strike fund was apparently pledged as collateral to Bank Otzar Hahayal, Histadrut Treasurer Haim Oran said yesterday.

The discovery follows a report by accountant Nissim Yehoshua. Former Histadrut secretary general Haim Haberfeld agreed that the money did not seem to be readily available.

However, he added that every expenditure was audited and neither he nor former treasurer Arthur Israelovitz was aware of any change over the fund's monies in favor of Bank Otzar Hahayal.

Oran said he had asked the bank to provide him with the original of the lien as soon as possible, since the authorized signatories denied signing it.

Bank Otzar Hahayal officials refused to comment, saying they never discuss the affairs of a client.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Haba declines to comment on reports he plans to resign: Bezeq chairman Moshe Haba yesterday declined to comment on reports that he planned to resign after more than three years in the job. But he did dismiss a report that Bezeq director-general Yitzhak Kaul would soon be leaving his post. Kaul declined to comment.

A story in *Ha'aretz* on Friday said Haba would leave the company, but did not say where he intended to go. It added that likely candidates to replace him were Communications Ministry director-general Shlomo Wachs and Gurion Melzer, who was until recently Tadiran's managing director. Appointments must be approved by the finance and communications ministers.

Compliance with minimum wage requirements increases: Business sector compliance with minimum wage requirements increased with the passage of the minimum wage law in 1987, although compliance levels dropped for employed women and low-paying sectors, according to a Bank of Israel study published yesterday.

The study, by Karmit Fling and Nitza Kasir of the central bank's research division, shows that from 1980-1982, when a collective minimum wage agreement was in force, 12 percent of wage-earners were paid less than the minimum wage. By contrast, after the passage of the minimum wage law, the number of those earning less than the minimum wage dropped to 6%.

Oren Most named Celcom Israel vice president: Oren Most, 43, has been named vice president of marketing and sales at Celcom Israel Ltd., which will offer cellular phone service in competition with Motorola/Bezeq's Pelephone. Before joining Celcom, Most was chief executive officer of Keter Publishing, where he turned a deficit of tens of millions of shekels into healthy profits. He also worked for Gibor Sabrina and was director of Coral World in the Bahamas.

Topop sells 50% interest in company to Sunfrost: Potato products manufacturer Topop Industries will sell a 50 percent interest in the company to frozen food marketer Sunfrost for \$2.2 million and a \$2.5m. loan. Topop began manufacturing frozen french fries for the fast food industry, specifically McDonald's (Israel), in June.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patish (foreign currency deposit rates) (10.10.94)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$20,000)	4.875	5.125	5.500
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.250	4.825	5.500
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.125	4.250	4.750
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.000	3.250	3.500
Yen (¥10 million yen)	0.750	0.875	1.250

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (14.10.94)

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Rep. Rate
U.S. dollar	3.2500	3.4170	2.94	3.3972
German mark	2.9800	3.0403	2.94	3.0200
French franc	1.9274	1.9822	1.83	1.9646
Japanese yen (100)	4.7885	4.8325	4.88	4.8125
Swiss franc	0.5742	0.5823	0.55	0.5708
Spanish peseta (100)	3.0412	3.0841	2.98	3.0649
Italian lira (1,000)	1.7355	1.7803	1.72	1.7719
Australian dollar	2.8504	2.9088	2.82	2.8942
Swedish krona	0.4108	0.4194	0.40	0.4140
Norwegian krone	0.4510	0.4574	0.44	0.4533
Danish krone	0.5018	0.5098	0.48	0.5081
Finland mark	0.6358	0.6445	0.62	0.6420
Canadian dollar	2.2108	2.2501	2.18	2.2271
Australian dollar	2.8504	2.9088	2.82	2.8942
S. African rand	0.8388	0.8505	0.75	0.8463
British pound (£100)	0.9583	0.9688	0.94	0.9545
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7835	2.8329	2.74	2.8000
Italian lira (1,000)	1.8320	1.8808	1.88	1.9475
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—	4.3064
Egyptian pound	—	—	—	4.7729
EU	3.7475	3.8004	4.22	3.7825
Irish punt	4.7885	4.8325	4.88	4.7922
Spanish peseta (100)	2.9801	3.0403	2.94	2.9801

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Seminars in Jerusalem and Herzliya

Next Week

A team of foreign investment specialists including our Chairman, Steven Astaire from the London office of Astaire & Partners Limited will be holding presentations on:

Monday, October 24, at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem

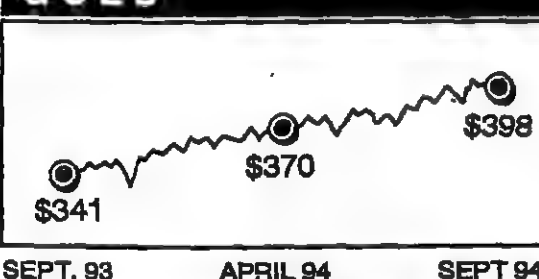
and

Wednesday, October 26, at the Dan Accadia Hotel in Herzliya

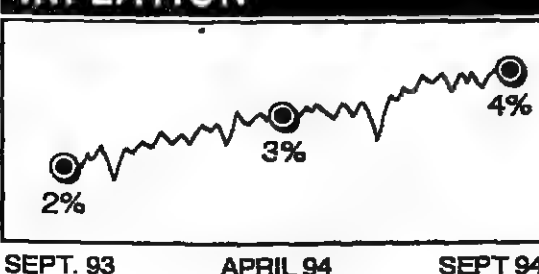
To reserve a place, or to arrange a confidential meeting with one of our London colleagues during their visit to Israel, please call Danny Fuchs at Astaire & Partners. Tel Aviv office at: (03) 695 5101, fax: (03) 695 6380. Space is limited, so contact us as soon as possible.

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Foreign demand up for apartments on coast

REAL ESTATE ROUNDUP

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

FOREIGN residents' demand for holiday apartments situated on the shore between Herzliya and Haifa has increased during the last few months, according to Gazit Construction and Zebrenco.

The company is developing the Wave Scape project in Givat Olga and the Nof Galim Sea View development in Netanya.

Gazit reported about half the buyers are foreign residents or Anglo Saxons.

Some of the buyers purchased the apartments for the purpose of permanent housing, while the remainder intend to use the units as holiday apartments.

Gazit Construction's Wave Scape development consists of 200 exclusive holiday apartments and penthouses.

The company is offering for sale a three-room, 105-sq.m. apartment for \$128,000, equal to \$1,200 per square meter. The price of a four-room apartment is about \$134,000.

In south Netanya, Gazit is constructing an exclusive housing de-

velopment consisting of 143 apartments with a sea view. The company is offering for sale a five-room apartment for \$199,000.

Gazit emphasized the price of holiday apartments in the Herzliya-Tel Aviv area is much higher than apartments offered for sale in Hadera and northern part of the country.

Apartments available in the Ocean Tower development in Herzliya are available at about \$5,000 per square meter, while the Kofar Beach apartment hotel in Bat Yam is offering apartments at an even higher cost.

Foreign residents have also expressed interest in other holiday developments on the shore.

Mario Laznik is currently constructing the Kfar Ha'Yam (Sea Village) development on Hadera beach. The company plans to invest \$60m. in development of the 120-dunam plot.

The village will include 430 housing units, including 300 apartments. The price of a three-room, 67-sq.m. apartment is about

\$170,000, equal to \$2,600 per square meter.

Foreign residents have also expressed interest in contractor Bani Mor's Casarea Yam development. The company is offering a villa for about \$200,000.

In the north, the Rivera on the Carmel Beach is being built right on the water line, at the entrance to Haifa.

The development consists of four apartment hotels - including 1,200 apartments, two hotels, beaches and shore promenade.

The price of a studio apartment is about \$131,000, some \$2,700 per square meter. The apartment buildings offer residents a luxurious entrance lobby, cafeteria, swimming pool, health club, tennis court and other services.

Azorum and Sons, a member of the Azorum Investments Group, has started construction of Azorum

Weizmann, a new housing development in the Weizmann Institute district in Rehovot.

Azorum plans to invest \$30m. in the development, which is situated on an 80-dunam plot that was purchased from the Levin family, a veteran family from Rehovot.

The development will consist of 350 apartments in 11 buildings, each of between six to 12 floors. The development will contain a sports club, shopping center, 15-dunam park and kindergarten.

Azorum has started to sell apartments in two buildings, which will be built in the framework of the first construction stage. The company expects total sales from the development to reach about \$55m.

The company is offering 68 housing units of three, four, five and six rooms. The price of a three-room, 89-sq.m. apartment and balcony is \$159,000, while a

four-room, 105-sq.m. apartment costs \$185,000. Azorum is offering five-room, 121-sq.m. apartments plus balcony for \$212,000.

Hundreds of people have already registered to purchase apartments in Modi'in, one week after developers started an aggressive marketing campaign to sell the new housing developments.

Developers said 200 people purchased apartments over the weekend. Ashdod announced the sale of 50 apartments, while Sharviv sold 12 apartments on Saturday and another 55 last week.

Anglo Saxon Modi'in, in charge of Sharviv's sales, said the company sold four-room, 110-sq.m. apartments for between \$140,000 and \$155,000.

The price of a five-room, 132-140 sq.m. apartment ranges from \$175,000 to \$187,000, while penthouse apartments are available at a starting price of \$195,000.

Other developers also reported high demand for housing units in Modi'in. Dankner Investments sold 10

apartments over the weekend. A. Dori sold four on Saturday and another 71 during the week, and Malibu sold 33 housing units at the end of the first marketing week.

Marlax reported the sale of 80 units over the same period, while Plasmim reported the sale of 33 housing units.

Dankner Investments plans to invest \$15m. in construction of the Naot Dankner development in Modi'in.

The company, which won the Housing and Development Ministry's tender, plans to construct 144 housing units in north Modi'in.

The development will consist of three-room, 85-sq.m. apartments, with and without gardens, at a starting price of \$125,000.

The price of a four-room, 120-sq.m. apartment is about \$160,000, and four-and-a-half-room, 125-sq.m. apartments are available for \$170,000.

The company is also offering six-room, 200-sq.m. cottages for \$225,000, and five room, 150 sq.m. duplex units.

Murdoch to face stockholders as News Corp faces profit squeeze

SYDNEY (Reuters) - Australian-born media tycoon Rupert Murdoch will face shareholders this week amid market doubts over the short-term profit outlook of his global media machine News Corp.

Murdoch, who became a naturalized US citizen in 1985, will return tomorrow to the sleepy city of Adelaide, where he inherited the News Corp family business in 1952 from his father, Sir Keith.

At the News Corp annual meeting, he will come face to face with shareholders who fear his recent frenzy to bolster global market share is stifling short-term earnings.

The world's most far-flung media concern will begin feeling the pinch from a slate of investments in the past year which marked Murdoch's return to an expansionary mode for the first time since the group nearly sank under debt in 1990.

Recent investments are expected to usher in longer-term profits, but many share analysts expect News Corp's earnings to grow by less than 15 percent in the current year after a near 25% jump in the year ended last June 30.

"The main problem I see for them is a sub-average earnings per share performance," said Terry Povey, analyst at investment firm James Capel in London.

Many investors agree and cite Murdoch's costly \$1.58 billion bid for the rights to broadcast US National Football Conference games as a major reason for their skepticism.

his Fox Broadcasting Co as the weightiest drag on 1995 earnings.

The sheer size of the bid for the four-year contract shocked the media industry and pushed Fox off the sidelines and firmly into mainstream US television. But the deal could cost News as much \$100 million this year, analysts said.

Larry Petrella, analyst at JP Morgan Securities Inc. in New York, said the impact of the US deal, along with other start-up costs from recent News Corp investments and a higher Australian dollar, were conspiring to restrain earnings.

"We're not looking for stellar earnings in 1995," Petrella said. But he still recommends News Corp shares due to potentially hefty growth in 1996 once start-up costs from the recent investments are phased through.

Those investments included the purchase of 64% of Hong Kong-based Asian satellite broadcaster STAR TV in July 1993 for \$525m, and the \$500m investment in US-based New World Communications. News Corp has also been hit by a costly newspaper price war in Britain.

These three developments, and the rights to broadcast one of America's favorite sporting pastimes into US living rooms, are raising fears of an earnings dilution and a return to an expansionary strategy.

"You don't buy News Corp shares as a quiet investment. You buy them if you have faith in this company's ability to grow," said a analyst.

what Murdoch is piecing together. There are people who are nervous about that and there are others who will join along," one media analyst said.

New York-based investment firm Salomon Brothers says Murdoch is ushering in a third movement in the evolution of News Corp after amassing assets in the late 1980s and rebalancing the firm's financial position in the early 1990s.

Analysts expect a 13% rise in net profit for 1994/95, before abnormal items, to A\$1.37b. (\$831.01b), compared with a far more spirited 24% rise in 1993/94 of a record A\$1.21b. (\$839.34m).

They expect stronger growth in 1996. Most look for a 26% rise in net profit to A\$1.73b. (\$1,286.34m).

Analysts expect Murdoch to continue testing US regulatory authorities to expand the fast-growing Fox Station network after the New World deal, which allowed Fox to swipe 12 affiliate stations from the top three US networks.

Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of News Corp, most recently has been embroiled in controversy surrounding a planned one-for-two bonus issue of limited voting preference shares designed to raise up to A\$5.4b. (\$4b.).

The issue, which would allow Murdoch to keep a firm grip on his 32.6% stake in the company, was initially attacked by shareholders who feared it would have little value.

Microsoft deal driven by on-line ambitions

SEATTLE (Reuters) - Microsoft Corp.'s decision to buy Quicken software maker Intuit Inc. in a \$1.5 billion stock deal was driven by a desire to become a major player in the emerging field of on-line information services.

The world's largest software company, which announced the deal last week, sees computer users performing electronic services like banking and bill paying over computer networks.

Intuit's best-selling personal-finance software package, Quicken, and a line of tax preparation programs including TurboTax, are good vehicles for these electronic transaction services, said Microsoft executive vice president Mike Maples.

"To us, the long-term future is obviously that a much higher percentage of transactions that happen now on paper will happen electronically," Maples said in an interview.

"Intuit has become Microsoft's consumer on-ramp to the information highway," declared analyst David Reardon of Unterberg Harris.

Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates said at a news conference that managing finances is a "pre-eminent application that the electronic world will advance."

To reflect that view, Intuit chairman Scott Cook will become Microsoft's "executive vice president of electronic commerce."

Analysts said electronic banking is likely to become a key part of Microsoft's expected on-line service, code-named Marvel. The service has not been formally acknowledged by Microsoft but is expected to be part of its huge Windows 95 operating system upgrade due out next year.

A click on the icon would connect the user via modem to Microsoft's new service, which would rival existing services such as America Online Inc.

Scott MacKenzie, an analyst with Microsoft could package Intuit software with Windows 95 or other applications for online users.

Competitors worry that Microsoft, whose software is installed in more than half the computers now on the market, will overwhelm

smaller players in the field. Among them, Steve Case, chief executive of America Online, said in an interview that he would be concerned by any plans to bundle online services with Microsoft's operating system.

But assuming the deal clears antitrust hurdles, Microsoft will be positioned to generate revenue from millions of electronic bill payments and other transactions from its massive user base.

Electronic banking "is the key to the real information superhighway," said Jeffrey Tarter, publisher of Softletter. "Forget the set-top boxes. Gates now owns our checkbooks."

"The home banking market is very key strategically," said Paul Harrison, president of MECA Software, a unit of H&R Block Inc. and a rival of Intuit.

"I think there will be a couple of large players in this area," he said in an interview.

MECA is aiming to be one of those players by offering its expertise in personal finance software to banks and other financial institutions.

The bank partners then could offer their own branded electronic services to customers.

Harrison sees banks ultimately offering consumers a chance to do everything from transfer money between accounts to apply for a mortgage from their home personal computer.

He said that only about six million of the nation's 25 million home computers are equipped with a personal-finance computer program, leaving plenty of room for growth.

Microsoft has formed some bank relationships to allow users of its personal finance program Money to do banking from home. The Money product would be sold to Novell Inc., but Microsoft plans to forge new bank partnerships to capitalize on the Intuit deal, Maples said.

Analysts also said Microsoft would help Intuit break into international markets, which now account for only two percent of the Intuit's revenues.

"The home market is just starting to take off in Europe," MacKenzie said.

Shares increase sharply for second consecutive day

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

Two-Sided Index	Maot Index	Karam Index
188.07 +2.43%	190.57 +2.47%	164.60 +1.77%

THE stock market rose sharply for the second consecutive day on meager trading yesterday.

The fact that it is necessary to gloss about two straight days of rises is an indication of how dependent investors have become.

The Two-Sided Index rose 2.4%, the Maot 2.5%, and the Karam 1.8%.

Turnover was NIS 123 million.

The results of trading were another reflection of the one-sidedness of the market. When there is a surplus of buying orders, no one wants to sell.

In a situation of a surplus of selling orders, no one wants to buy. This was particularly noticeable on the Karam market.

A small surplus of buy orders on that market, particularly in the case of warrants, would send the price shooting up.

For instance, Agis Warrant 2 rose 5% in the face of a surplus of buy orders of NIS 1,287, a nominal value worth slightly more than NIS 6,000 or \$2,600. Similarly, Baranovitz was declared "buyers only" with a surplus of buy orders of NIS 3,620 worth NIS 45,000.

Baranovitz's market value is NIS 68m. Overall turnover on the Karam market, including the Parallel List, was a meagre NIS 30m.

On the Two-Sided market, Koor rose 4.5% on a turnover of NIS 9.1m. Similarly, IDB Development rose 3.3%, Israel Chemicals 3.6%, and Clal Israel and Clal Industries 3%.

As usual on a day like this, the speculative issues rose sharply.

Among the Oil Exploration companies, Hanaal was up 9.4%, Isramco rose 10%, and Abjact went up 9.9%.

In the Meir Ezra Group, Meir Ezra was up 4.5%, T-Bone Veal rose 6.1%, and Poseidon increased 5.6%.

The market was buoyed by two separate developments. CPI was lower than expected at 1.1%, as housing rose only 1.2%, more than the general index but less than usual.

Although fruit and vegetable prices contributed 25% of the rise, climbing 7.1%, the Agriculture Ministry has announced it will import potatoes and tomatoes, which should help moderate the overall index.

This optimism on the inflation front might be premature, since September was hardly a typical month, due to the holidays.

The October index might be far more revealing in this respect, but it will not come for more than 20 trading days, a long time by TASE standards.

Key Representative Rates

	US dollar	NIS 3.0220	Change
	Sterling	NIS 4.8125	-%
	Mark	NIS 1.9946	-%

Gold, silver markets rise slightly

COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

KEY inflation and capacity utilization figures released on Friday came in largely as expected, with the gold and silver markets little moved by the news.

The markets did draw some support from early weakness in the dollar. Gold ended \$1.40 higher at \$990.00 per ounce after drifting quietly throughout the afternoon. Silver levels reached early.

Silver ended the day at \$5.387 an ounce, 20 cents higher after dipping late in the session in quiet trading.

The market managed to steady itself after dropping on Thursday to a seven-week low due to heavy speculative fund liquidation. Both these markets are expected to experience a period of consolidation this week.

Copper futures ended up 50 cents to \$1.420. Analysts said the market appears to be focused on technical fund activity and not on inventories since it appeared to disregard the recent rise in LME stocks.

Corn futures ended on an aggressive note, up one to 2 1/2 cents per bushel, with December futures closing at \$2.17 1/2 per bushel. Fund buying and technical short covering, as well as good export sales figures, were mainly responsible for this boost in corn futures.

Corn harvest has been progressing at a rapid rate, but damp weather - which has been predicted for the coming week - is expected to slow combining down slightly.

Wheat futures closed 1/4 to six cents higher, with December futures closing at \$4.08 1/2.

Traders attributed this bullish trend to a renewed wave of speculative buying complemented by late commercial demand, as Egypt increased its bid, as well as the quantity it was seeking for ERP wheat.

The aggressive fund buying in corn futures resulted in a bullish reaction to the Egyptian bid.

Trading was heavy and November soybean futures closed up 5 1/4 to \$5.38 1/2. Good export sales figures, as well as predicted bad weather this coming week - which could cause harvest delays - were also factors that affected the market.

Brazil imposed a 10 percent export tax on raw and refined sugar products, causing world sugar prices to end sharply higher. March sugar prices closed 28 cents higher to 12.35 cents per pound.

Arabica coffee closed sharply lower, amid greater uncertainty over potential rainfall in Brazil's drought-stricken coffee regions.

London also failed to follow through on CSCE's Thursday gains, which prompted the sharply lower opening from which New York never recovered, traders said.

December futures lost 6.25 cents to close at 188.35 cents a pound.

Cocoa ended sharply higher after a late wave of commission house short-covering and trade buying, dealers said. December futures ended \$26 higher at \$1,269 a tonne.

Courtesy of Michael Zwebnier, Comstock Trading Ltd.

Kodak sells do-it-yourself products

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (Reuters) - Photography giant Eastman Kodak Co., proclaiming the end of a five-year program that has raised nearly \$8 billion since June, said it will sell the do-it-yourself products businesses of its L&F Products unit to Fortmann Little & Co. for \$700 million.

The L&F unit, which makes such familiar brand-name products as Thompson's water sealers, Minwax varnishes and Red Devil paint, will become part of the privately held Fortmann.

"This transaction completes the major portion of our divestiture program," Kodak Chief Executive George Fisher said in a statement, announcing the deal.

"In less than six months, we have reshaped Kodak. We are a smaller company with a stronger balance sheet, focused exclusively on our core imaging businesses," he said.

Earlier this month, Kodak agreed to sell L&F's household products business, maker of Lysol disinfectant and disinfectant, to British's Reckitt and Colman for \$1.5 billion.

It also sold its clinical diagnostics unit to healthcare mammoth Johnson and Johnson for \$1b.

Since June, Kodak has sold other businesses, including both the prescription medicine and the over-the-counter medicine businesses of its Sterling drug unit.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Two-sided trading

Commercial Banks					AFTERNOON					MORNING				
Name	Price	Change	Volume	High	Name	Price	Change	Volume	High	Name	Price	Change	Volume	High
Bank Leumi	188.07	+2.43%	190.57	+2.47%	Bank Leumi	164.60	+1.77%			Bank Leumi	164.60	+1.77%		
Bank Hapoalim	188.07	+2.43%	190.57	+2.47%	Bank Hapoalim	164.60	+1.77%			Bank Hapoalim	164.60	+1.77%		
Bank Mizrahi	188.07	+2.43%	190.57	+2.47%	Bank Mizrahi	164.60	+1.77%			Bank Mizrahi	164.60	+1.77%		
Bank Discount	188.07	+2.43%	190.57	+2.47%	Bank Discount	164.60	+1.77%			Bank Discount	164.60	+1.77%		
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Ferreira wins Joyce Eisenberg Open

Mansdorf chokes back tears as he bids farewell to fans before retirement

ORI LEWIS

AMOS Mansdorf was a real hero yesterday. Despite coming out second best in the \$250,000 Joyce Eisenberg Israel Open in which he lost 7-6, (7-4), 6-3 to the superior Wayne Ferreira, he went out with a bang in his last professional match in front of his home fans.

Mansdorf broke down at the end of the match when all the 3,000 fans who had come to see him in what they knew would be his last appearance here, braved the rain to hear him make a speech which he could not finish as he was overcome by tears.

The gallery gave Mansdorf a long standing ovation and chanted "Amos Mansdorf, Amos Mansdorf..." repeatedly as he tried to recount his career from the early days as a child at Ramat Hasharon 19 years ago.

Mansdorf didn't get very far, however, as his voice choked in tears and he had to turn to tournament director Ian Froman for solace.

The emotional ending was the high point of a week full of excellent tennis in which Mansdorf could have made his farewell appearance any time from the first round onwards.

The unseeded Israeli No. 1 was a surprise finalist in this tournament and his fifth appearance in the final here was just one of the many achievements he has registered.

Ferreira, the top seed and 13th in the world singles rankings looked the stronger player almost from the start of the match but Mansdorf was in no mood to surrender despite knowing that he was up against a much stronger player.

The spectators, which Ferreira later likened to a Davis Cup crowd, were not going to let Mansdorf off lightly. They cheered and roared all the way through the match egging him on to play at his very best.

The match opened with Mansdorf breaking Ferreira in the second game, but any hopes the Israeli might have had of opening up a substantial lead were thwarted in the very next

game when Ferreira broke back.

The South African found his rhythm by the fourth game when he pounded in two aces to win his serve to love.

There were two more consecutive breaks in the ninth and tenth games with the crowd chanting "break, break, break..." when Mansdorf was about to serve to go ahead in the match, but his success was short-lived as Ferreira stayed with the pace.

The ensuing tie break was the turning point in the match. Ferreira looked the more self-assured player at this point and he won through as Mansdorf made two costly errors to go 4-2 and then 5-2 down.

The South African eventually won the tie break 7-4.

The match slackened off slightly in the second set and there was just one break of serve in the eighth game. From then on it was clear that there could be only one outcome.

"I started really nervously, and Amos didn't give me anything," noted the victor.

Ferreira lavished his praise on the tournament and said he would definitely be back to defend his title next year.

Mansdorf was certainly not about to change his mind about retirement despite his successful week here.

"I played well here, but this does not mean that I'm going to continue playing. It's easy when you play on your favorite court and you go home to sleep in your own bed every night," he said.

"It's when you have to play against a kid in the first round in Toulouse with 300 screaming school-children that you realize that you just don't want to do this any more."

"I don't want to continue playing the way I'm playing. Being 70 in the world is just not a challenge. I want to be among the top 30 and if I can't be there - and I realize that I'm just not up to it any more - then I'd rather stop," he told a silenced press corps.

Mansdorf's career has not ended just yet. He plays Thomas Muster in the first round of the indoor tournament in Vienna this week and will then say farewell at a one-night exhibition event at Yad Eliyahu next month.

Lan Bale and John de Jager won the doubles event. The second seeds beat top-seeded pairing Jan Apell and Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden in three exciting sets, 6-7 (2-7), 6-2, 7-6 (7-2).



TEARFUL FAREWELL - An emotional Amos Mansdorf says good-bye to fans after losing the Eisenberg Open to South Africa's Wayne Ferreira yesterday.

(Haseo Guttman)

Hap TA, Holon, Mac. Jerusalem, Herzliya advance

JOEL GORDIN

Bnei Herzliya, Hapoel Tel Aviv, Hapoel Holon and Maccabi Jerusalem will advance to the quarter-finals (1-8) of the State Cup. This was determined after the outcome of four second-leg games played last night. The four teams will join two other clubs, Maccabi Tel Aviv and Maccabi Ramat Gan, which made it through to the next round last Thursday.

The two legs of the quarter-finals will be played on December 28 and January 1.

Mac Jerusalem 106 (82), Mac Ramat Hasharon 70 (87) (First-leg results in brackets).

The second-leg visitors collapsed after 10 minutes and their first-half advantage from the first game did not help. The main reason for their failure was the poor form of usually crack American Jack Jennings, despite his 17 points.

For Jerusalem, Joe Dawson scored 20 points and Gilad Simhon 17.

Hap TA 98 (104), Mac Ramat 84 (76) Even taking into account his second-leg opponent, Hapoel looked much better than it has for weeks. All in all, it was a good practice run for next week's vital European Cup match-up with Czechoslovakia's Rno.

Buck Johnson was Hapoel's top player on the court, netting 34 points.

Bnei Herzliya 100 (91), Maccabi Ramat 95 (88)

The visiting second league team did not disgrace itself and held Herzliya to 55-all at halftime.

Its secret was the high standard of its two Americans, Brian George and Herman Smith, helped by local player Amir Weisman. He scored more than 15 points. However, Herzliya's experience and height advantage made up for the difference in the second half and the result was a fair reflection of the game.

Hap Holon 94 (101), Hap Gvat 93 (73) Home team Holon - maybe as a result of its 27-point lead from the first game - took things easy and trailed 56-48 at halftime.

The team made up the difference thanks to good shooting by Shelton Jones and David Thindkil.

Two seconds before the end they were 93-91 behind but Adi Gordon heaved a timely three-pointer to take the game.

In a post-match interview, Holon sponsor Nalim Minkov squashed rumors that he intends to fire coach Meyer Kaminsky. The remaining two teams in the quarter-finals will be decided tonight. A cliff-hanger is expected at Malm in the match-up between Hapoel Jerusalem and Maccabi Ramat Gan.

Jerusalem, with the home advantage, has a six-point deficit to make up against the visitors.

Tonight's games are (home team scored first results of first leg in brackets): Hapoel Jerusalem (83) vs. Maccabi Ramat Gan (89); Hapoel Gvat (91) vs. Hapoel Tel Aviv (98).

Auburn surprises No. 1 Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) - Auburn silenced its critics and a record crowd at No. 1 Florida. Nebraska started a third-string quarterback and still won 17-6 at No. 16 Kansas State. Penn State lost an early lead and came back 31-24 at No. 5 Michigan.

For all three winners, the road to the national championship may have started on the road Saturday.

Sixth-ranked Auburn, the team that does not lose, surprised Florida 36-33 when Frank Sanders leaped between two defenders to catch an 8-yard touchdown pass from Patrick Nix with 30 seconds left.

"This was our Super Bowl," said coach Terry Bowden, who has

not lost in two seasons as Auburn's coach. "This makes us No. 1."

Auburn, a 16-point underdog, extended the nation's longest winning streak to 18 games. The Tigers have been on NCAA probation the whole time and are ineligible for a bowl.

In other games, No. 7 Texas A&M trounced Baylor 41-21. No. 9 Washington topped Arizona State 35-14. No. 10 Alabama got past Tennessee 17-13. No. 13 Colorado defeated Texas 31 from 6-9. No. 14 Arizona held off No. 28 Washington State 17-7 and No. 15 North Carolina beat Maryland 41-17.

Also, Brigham Young upended No. 17 Notre Dame 24-14. No. 19 Virginia Tech beat East Carolina 27-20. No. 21 Utah beat Hawaii 14-3. No. 24 Boston College downed Temple 45-28. No. 25 Wisconsin defeated Purdue 27-21 and No. 26 Duke defeated Clemson 19-13.

Yachting tourney wraps up

JOEL GORDIN

THIRTY-FIVE privately owned yachts took part in the first-ever Israel Yachting Championship held in the bay near the Tel Aviv Marina this weekend.

The winners of the three categories were Pazi, manned by a team from Nevo Yam, Tevat Noach, manned by a squad captained by former world yachting champion Shimon Bruckman and Morris, captained by Eitan Friedlander.

The boats were divided into categories according to their handicaps, which in turn depended on their length varying from 7 to 16 meters.

Tel Aviv Mayor Rommie Milo started the first lap of the race on Friday and two more laps were contested on Saturday.

In the past, Israel championships had only been held for the smaller Olympic-class vessels which have either one- or two-person crews. The three yachts which won each category of the championship are eligible to represent Israel in international events such as the America's Cup.

China confirms Asian sporting supremacy

HIROSHIMA (AP) - The first gold went to a 29-year-old school-teacher from Japan. The last to a soccer team from the newly independent state of Uzbekistan.

But in between, the Asian Games belonged to China.

In the pool, the Chinese women were undefeated, 15-for-15, and China won all nine divisions in women's weightlifting, six with world records. In track, it was 22 out of 43, 13-for-14 in gymnastics, 11-for-12 in rowing and 4-for-4 in diving.

China won golds in shooting, yachting, basketball, judo, cycling, table tennis, wushu, canoeing, wrestling, fencing, women's soccer and softball.

They won so much gold, in fact, that rumors of foul play threatened to mar the games, until some of sports' top officials - including

International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch - came to China's defense.

The one athlete caught in doping tests here was Thailand's soccer captain, who tested "positive" for a banned stimulant.

But Asia is certainly arriving in the world of sport.

With the 12th Asian Games over, China goes home with 137 - or 41 percent - of the 337 gold medals at stake, well over its pre-games goal of 100 but well below its haul of 183 at the last games, which it hosted in Beijing in 1990.

South Korea won the battle with Japan for second place, 63 to 59. In total medals, the Chinese had 289 to 207 for Japan and 179 for the Koreans.

Kazakhstan, making its debut in the Asian Games, had 77 medals, including 25 gold.

Pakistan victorious against South Africa

KARACHI, Pakistan (Reuters) - Salim Malik held three fine catches and scored a polished 62 not out to lead Pakistan to an eight-wicket win over South Africa yesterday, its first in the triangular limited overs series.

Malik shared an unbroken third-wicket partnership of 115 with Inzamam-ul-Haq, who hit an unbeaten 51, as Pakistan cruised home at 166 for two from 44.4 overs after South Africa made a meager 163 for nine in its 50 overs.

Openers Saeed Anwar (20) and Asim Sohail (22) had both fallen by the 20th over with the total 51, but captain Malik and Inzamam swiftly scotched South African hopes of pulling off a surprise victory.

Malik struck three fours in his innings of 86 balls to clinch the man-of-the-match award while In-

zamam hammered five boundaries and faced 84 balls.

A depleted South African side - all-rounders Brian McMillan and paceman Craig Matthews were ruled out by injury - had been contained by combative out-crickets.

Paceman Aaqib Javed celebrated his Pakistan recall after six months absence by capturing his 10th wicket in one-day internationals, reaching the landmark in his 93rd appearance by dismissing Jonty Rhodes for 16.

South African players failed to build on a useful opening stand of 49 by Kepler Wessels (33) and Andrew Hudson (23).

Australia leads the table with two wins out of two ahead of Pakistan, which has one win and one defeat. South Africa has lost its first two matches.

Wednesday enjoys late victory

IPSWICH (AP) - David Hirst fired the winner for Sheffield Wednesday in injury time after Bulgarian striker, Stanko Gunchev had missed an Ipswich penalty yesterday as the Owls ran out 2-1 winners in the Premier League.

Mark Bright fired Wednesday ahead after eight minutes only for veteran Scottish defender John Wark to tie the game five minutes into the second half.

Gunchev fired his spot kick too high in the 84th minute after Simon Milton had been hauled down inside the penalty area and the game seemed headed for a tie until Hirst scored the late winner for the visitor.

In division one action, Southend edged Derby 1-0. Bolton and Oldham tied 2-2 and Sheffield United and Saturday battled to a goal-less draw.

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Organ drive aims to ease donor fears

JUDY SIEGEL

MORE than half of Jewish Israelis mistakenly believe that donating organs for transplant is forbidden by Jewish law, even though they cannot cite the reason, while only 14 percent of those surveyed believe that halacha permits or even encourages such donations.

Nearly two-fifths of those polled thought there was a "reasonable risk" that doctors would prematurely pronounce a patient dead so that his organs could be removed for transplant; an additional 14 percent thought this "might occur."

These are some of the results of a telephone survey conducted for the Health Ministry by the Geocartography company, on the eve of a well-funded ministry campaign to encourage organ donations.

Of the 508 Jewish adults polled, 44 percent said they were "sure" or "thought they would" be ready to sign a card registering themselves as potential organ donors.

Over 750 Israelis are currently waiting for an organ donation that could save their lives.

Fully 88 percent regarded the saving of lives by donating organs as important, and 66 percent said that if a person's death were incontrovertible, it was justified to remove organs for transplant. Two-thirds of Jews polled who were willing to donate organs didn't care to whom they would be given, while 27 percent insisted that they would give them only to a fellow Jew; this tendency was most appreciable among modern Orthodox Jews, haredim and Jews of Oriental origin.

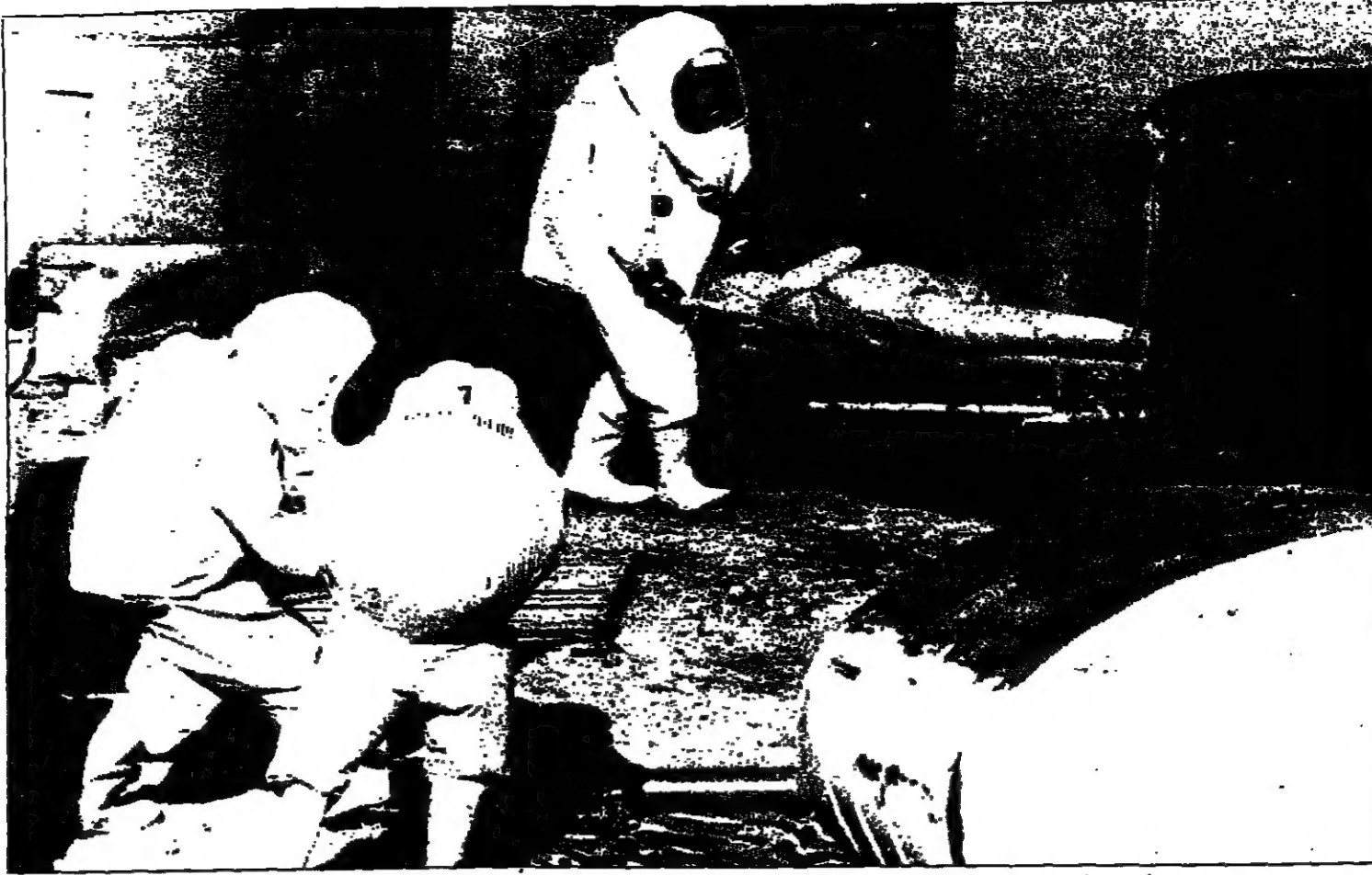
Second-generation Israeli-born Jews and the highly educated were much more willing to donate organs than others. Even those who would not donate themselves were more likely to agree to donating a deceased relative's organs if that person had expressed such a desire during his lifetime.

Only 15 percent think the moment of death occurs when the lower brain ceases to function; over half believe that death takes place when both the lower-brain and the heart cease functioning (this is false, because the heart can be kept beating by artificial means, even though the brain is dead). Just 27 percent feel that organ removal and distribution are properly supervised; many of those polled would feel more positively about donating organs "if there were" proper supervision.

The survey did not encompass Arab Israelis, even though they are also a target of the media campaign, which begins today.

It will include the broadcast of three films telling the story of people whose lives were saved by organ transplants: Michel Varais of Kibbutz Mishmar Hanegev, who had a heart transplant abroad 10 years ago; a Tel Aviv girl named Shahar, who received a liver two years ago; and Sauson Zuabi of Nazareth, who received a liver four years ago. There will also be a large number of advertisements in the print media.

A previous ministry campaign to promote organ donations a few years ago did not prove very successful.



Tel Aviv firefighters yesterday evacuate a mock victim of a simulated explosion and chemical fire with poisonous fumes in the Bat Yam area. Police, rescue teams, Magen David Adom units, and Environment Ministry experts in dangerous substances also took part in the drill, staged at a canned goods factory where a real incident occurred last year. (Hanoach Grizitzky/Israel Sun)

No services in development towns today

DAVID RUDGE

MUNICIPAL services in development towns throughout the country are expected to be shut down today as workers join their striking mayors in a mass demonstration outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem.

The one-day strike by the workers is part of the intensification of the campaign by the mayors to press the government to bail out their debt-ridden councils.

The development town mayors themselves have pitched a tent oppo-

site the Prime Minister's Office and have threatened to camp there until their demands to consolidate deficits and increase budgets are met.

The mayors, with the full backing of the Union of Local Authorities (ULA), have accused the government of reneging on agreements signed four months ago to resolve the financial plight of the councils.

The ULA said yesterday that the

development towns need an immediate NIS 100 million to be able to continue to provide municipal services to local residents.

Dimona Mayor Gabi Lalouch, head of the forum of development town mayors, said the mass demonstration should have gone ahead yesterday but was deferred to today because of Friday night's tragic events.

ULA chairman Adi Eldar, who is

also mayor of Karmiel, called on the government to honor its promises and ensure that the development towns could continue to function.

The dire financial straits of the development towns is to be raised in a scheduled meeting today of the Knesset Interior Committee. A delegation of striking mayors is expected to attend the meeting.

The Treasury has rejected the mayors' demands, saying it has implemented government pledges.

Girl, 15, returns from Paris after successful liver transplant

BATSHEVA TSUR

FIFTEEN-year-old Olga Kosenko of Ramat Gan, who left Israel in a coma on Yom Kippur, arrived back home yesterday on an El Al flight after undergoing a successful liver transplant at the Bijon Medical Center in Paris.

Olga was flown to Paris on a special ambulance plane after doctors at Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, and Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer decided she would not live without an immediate transplant.

In a special humanitarian gesture, Ben-Gurion Airport, which was closed for Yom Kippur, was opened to enable her to leave and the Interior Ministry issued her a special laissez passer.

All the costs of the transplant, the flying ambulance, and the hospitalization were borne by the Kupat Ho-

lim Maccabi health fund. The Public Council for Soviet Jewry provided a ticket for her mother, Ludmilla, to accompany Olga.

The Kosenko family arrived here 10 months ago from Birobjan in the former Soviet Union. Shortly after Rosh Hashana, Olga contracted a rare viral infection. After two days in intensive care, the doctors decided she had no chance unless she were able to receive a transplant.

In Paris, volunteers from the Public Council were located to help Ludmilla, who does not speak French, to manage in the French capital and to provide her with support. Ruth Bar-On, head of the organization said.

Last week, Olga walked along the banks of the Seine for the first time, Bar-On reported.

Bnei Brak residents protest garbage pile-up

DOZENS of Bnei Brak residents demonstrated yesterday evening in the Pardess Katz neighborhood market to protest against the growing piles of garbage in the streets, resulting from a 13-day-old strike by municipal workers.

The demonstrators, who included many women with babies in strollers, called on Environment Minister Yossi Sarid to worry not only about security issues but about the "security of our children, who are suffering from the stench and dirt in Bnei Brak."

One woman said she had been forced by the situation to move with her two-month-old baby to her parents' home out of the city. Another woman complained that hepatitis is rampant in the kinder-

gartens and schools. "You don't have to go to India to get the plague," said another mother, "you can get it here in Pardess Katz!"

Bnei Brak city secretary Avraham Tannenbaum said the city had not received any help from the government to cover its growing deficit, and the municipality has no money to pay workers' salaries.

He added, however, that last night trucks from the Environment Ministry, operated by private contractors, were to come to try to clean the city streets. He said he hopes the striking city workers do not try to interfere with the clean-up, as they had during a similar attempt Saturday night. (Ilim)

Beersheba municipal workers end strike

AMIR ROZENBLIT

SOME 1,700 Beersheba Municipality workers are returning to work today after a five-day strike, after they were paid the second half of their September salaries yesterday, works committee chairman Yaish Vaknin reported.

A municipality spokeswoman said the city had also undertaken to pay the workers' various additional social welfare payments into the proper funds within 10 days.

The strike closed all the municipal kindergartens, along with secretarial and other services in the city's schools, other than special education institutions. Custodial staff worked on a Sabbath schedule, while the municipal hot line also had reduced hours.

The workers had received only half their September salaries on October 7, due to a continuing financial crisis plaguing the municipality, whose operating deficit is now estimated at about NIS 500 million. On Wednesday, the workers noticed that the second half of their salaries had not been deposited in their accounts, contrary to what they had been promised by Mayor Yitzhak Rager, and launched their strike.

At the same time, it was discovered the city had failed to make the necessary payments into the workers' continued education funds and pension funds. Vaknin wrote to Rager noting that this had been going for at least five months, and demanded he intervene personally in the matter.

Border policeman fires shots to stop battering of mother

RAINE MARCUS

A 21-YEAR-OLD border policeman fired shots into the air yesterday in his family's apartment to keep his father from beating his mother. The Justice Ministry's internal police division is investigating the incident.

Neighbors in Lod's Binat neighborhood reported hearing shots yesterday morning and called police.

A border policeman told investigators he had fired shots from his M-16 rifle in the air when his father started beating his mother. "I wanted to stop him and tried to protect my mother," he told police.

Deri trial witness: No haredi housing to be at Nebi Samwil

ATTORNEY

Avraham Drechsler, adviser to then agriculture minister Aryeh Nehamkin from 1985 to 1989, testified at the trial of former interior minister Aryeh Deri yesterday that there was a ministry directive not to permit haredi housing construction at Nebi Samwil.

Deri is on trial at the Jerusalem District Court on charges of fraud, bribery, and breach of public trust.

Drechsler, testifying for the prosecution, said Nehamkin had a special relationship to the area, because he had fought there during the War of Independence. Nehamkin had told him that plots had been purchased there by haredim but they in particular would not be allowed to build there, Drechsler said.

However, he added, all the official bodies were opposed to construction there, because the site was destined to be a nature reserve.

Meanwhile, the state yesterday filed its response to a High Court petition submitted by Likud activist Gil Samsonov and the Aminal association for good government against Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair and Shimon Shetret, today the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office. The petitioners are asking Ben-Yair to prosecute Shetret for allegedly interfering in the Deri investigation.

Ben-Yair told the court he finds no reason to press criminal charges against Shetret. (Ilim)

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New health insurance effective January 1

JUDY SIEGEL

THE national health insurance system will begin on January 1, the cabinet decided yesterday.

The Health Ministry, which had requested this decision, was gratified by the setting of the date - even though no arrangements have been made to include an "organization tax" in the health tax all workers are to pay to the National Insurance Institute.

According to Treasury spokesman Eli Yoseph, the cabinet approved a proposal to separate the implementation of the organization tax from that of the health tax, to avoid delaying implementation of the National Health Insurance Law.

The launching of the national health insurance system was made possible by an agreement last week between the ministers of health and finance that the Treasury would next year contribute hundreds of millions of shekels to health services. The Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee must still approve the basket of health services to be provided to all residents under the system.

The remaining stumbling block is the refusal of Kupat Holim Clalit workers to participate in efficiency measures on which the health fund's recovery program depends. Without the recovery program, Clalit will be put into receivership or go bankrupt.

Egg producers cutting off supply

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

EGG producers are to stop selling eggs today, the Poultry Growers Association announced yesterday.

On Wednesday, the association will demonstrate opposite the Knesset against the Treasury's reforms in the sector, planned for next year.

"The country's poultry growers are out to battle for their future, as the government of Israel forces them into a dead-end situation," said association spokesman Yitzhak Tovall.

He pointed out that the 4,000 egg producers who would be adversely affected live primarily in border areas, the Jerusalem corridor, and other on moshavim.

The association's representatives accused the Treasury of going back

on its word, and has halted payment to farmers for removal of excess egg supplies in the amount of NIS 20 million per month. The representatives claim the Treasury has not paid the farmers for two months.

The government, they said, has made payment contingent on the associations agreement to the reforms, under which there will be no guaranteed prices and no payments to prevent excess supplies.

A spokesperson for the Agriculture Ministry said payment to farmers was stopped to prevent it from going over its budget allocated to the producers, which amounts to NIS 110m. The ministry is negotiating with the Treasury.

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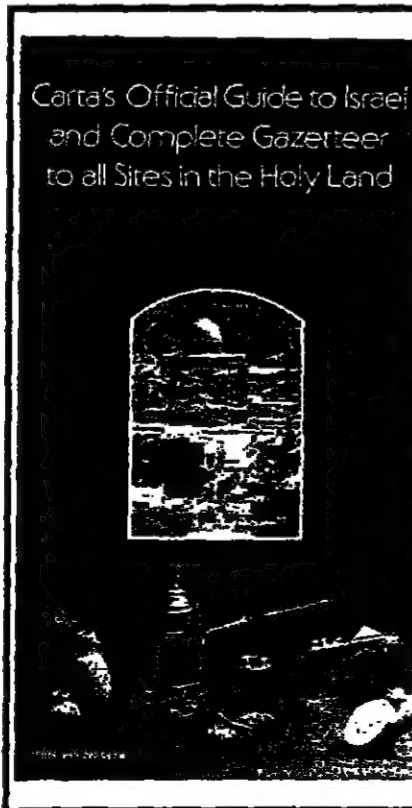
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